

ON BARNE
TIME TO PRE
CA. COURAGE
ADON: OF

I worst

WALRUS
SCUD

Y WORKS
on 01536 269571
24hr 24hr 24hr 24hr

RBY
lines it Better

APOLLO 30

BACK IN THE FOLD

Woodcock on
English cricket's return
to South Africa, PAGE 46

HOSTESS POWER

Quentin Letts on
sky queens and the
bimbo image, PAGE 19

Chief Executive

APPOINTMENTS

24 pages of executive
and senior positions
SPECIAL SECTION 3

25P

THE TIMES

No. 65,402

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19 1995

Scheme to ease burden on families

Nursing fees may be paid for the old

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

OLD PEOPLE living in private residential homes are to have their nursing costs paid for by the Government under proposals being drawn up by ministers.

The plan, which could be announced in the Budget next month and phased in over several years, is designed to defuse mounting middle-class dismay over pensioners who have to sell their homes to pay for care, denying their children their inheritance.

Ministers are looking at a £150 million scheme to cover the 150,000 people who now pay the full costs of their care. The plan would cover only nursing expenses; residents would still be expected to pay accommodation fees, and although the cost is relatively modest now, it will soar as the population ages.

The scheme will be the first tangible outcome of a five-month review of the provision of old age care carried out by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, and the Downing Street Policy Unit on the Prime Minister's orders. John Major, who wants to phase out inheritance tax, is concerned about the impact of costly care both on pensioners today and on their children, who will be denied the home or nestleg they were expecting.

Other options include raising the £8,000 savings threshold that cuts off state care for nursing home fees — although that could mean raising the threshold for all social security benefits at exorbitant cost — and offering not to break to those willing to save for their old age. Another longer term measure could be to require younger people to insure against the cost of going into a home.

In some cases, the elderly have been forced to sell their homes to pay nursing home fees of £350 a week and more.



Dorrell making bid for extra funding

Many have to do so after spending two or three years in less expensive residential homes; once their health deteriorates, they need the more intensive care of nursing homes, which can cost an extra £100 a week.

Ministers argue that people now choosing to live in nursing homes are doing so because of the long-term cost implications — state spending on residential and nursing home care has already risen to more than £2.2 billion from £10 billion in 1979.

The plan has also faced opposition from Cabinet ministers such as Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, who is arguing against any change on principle rather than cost. Mr Lilley, whose own bud-

get would be marginally affected, believes that those who can afford it should pay for their care and argued that the inheritance argument holds little weight. He argues that only one person in six goes into a residential home and the average length of stay is only two years, so there is not a huge problem to be addressed.

However, Mr Dorrell is firmly pushing for change and is bidding for his budget to be expanded if necessary. He is thought to believe that improvements in the standards of care for poorer pensioners has fuelled the sense of injustice felt by those having to pay their own way.

Mr Dorrell is also said to be considering a complete overhaul of residential and nursing care funding in the state sector to complement the changes, so that the Health Department would finance health care costs while social services departments paid for accommodation.

Ministerial sources admitted that disagreement over the best option could delay an announcement until next year, and some Cabinet ministers are arguing that any announcement should be held back for the Conservative manifesto.

But one source said: "It would make good political sense to make an announcement sooner — in the Budget — rather than later. The Prime Minister has been looking at this for six months. But it depends whether agreement can be reached between ministers."

It is likely that any package will be phased in over several years, so that costs are contained initially. It is possible that part of the programme will be announced in the Budget with the remainder reserved for the manifesto.



Red Rum, ridden by Tommy Stack, winning the National for the third time

Grand National hero Red Rum dies at 30

By SIMON BARNES

IT was the passing of a hero, nothing less. Yesterday Red Rum died: a horse whose name was synonymous with the most precious and elusive commodity in sport — victory. Victory in the hardest, most exacting circumstances. Three wins in the Grand National; it really is true. We shall not see his like again.

On May 2 this year, he stepped out of his retirement from public life to make an appearance at Aintree, home of the Grand National, to celebrate his 30th birthday. A grand age for a horse.

John Burgess, his vet, was called to attend to him early yesterday. "For a short time, he had not been himself," Burgess said. "I found him in a distressed state, obviously very weak and showing signs of circulatory failure."

There was nothing left to do but perform the last rites and say the farewells. Ginger McCain, his trainer for all three Grand National wins, said: "The old lad has had a wonderful life and been a

marvellous friend. A very remarkable old horse — seriously magical." Indeed: not a bad bargain for 400 guineas, his price as a yearling. He began his racing career on the Flat, and did so remarkably enough, by dead-heat. He went on to win three times over hurdles and five times over fences before Lurline Brotherton sold him for 6,000 guineas to Noel le Mare.

Red Rum then went to McCain's yard, behind the secondhand car showroom in Southport, where he trained daily on the endless sands. From then on, the rest is, of course, history.

Red Rum won the Grand National in 1973 and 1974, was second the following two years, to L'Escargot and to Rag Trade, but came back in triumph to win again in 1977.

He retired on the eve of the big race the following year. He owes his place in national affections not for flashy looks or extravagant technique, but for winning. Specifically, for winning the Grand

National, the biggest betting race of the year. He was the horse who made a lottery into a certainty.

There was nothing startling about his jumping, save its consistency. He jumped with something like a showjumper's care, a thoughtful economy, but he added to that a remorseless gallop between fences that broke the stamina and the heart of his rivals.

He would probably have been rather a bore to interview: no extravagant claims, no wild statements. I just take each fence as it comes and gallop till I get past the winning post. He won 24 of his 100 races over obstacles, and collected £114,371 in prize-money, which was a record for a jumper when he retired.

After his retirement, he became a full time celebrity, opening supermarkets and betting shops, taking on anything short of after-dinner speaking. Every year from 1978 to 1984, he led the parade of runners before the start of the Grand National, every year he found it a perplexing experience: the sounds and sights of Aintree on its Feast Day filled him with adrenalin and made him want to do one thing: run. Unable to do so, he compensated every year by behaving extremely badly.

He lived in his retirement with McCain, who was always aware that he had in his care a living national treasure. Red Rum remains, perhaps will always remain, the only horse to have won the Grand National three times. He has been buried at Aintree. At the finishing line, where else?



The plaque on the grave at the course finishing line

Sport, page 48

Howard ready to come out fighting as Lewis sues

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND RICHARD FORD

MICHAEL HOWARD will today mount a vigorous fightback against calls for his resignation as the former head of the Prison Service prepares to take him to court for wrongful dismissal.

The Home Secretary was reported last night to be ready to "come out with all guns blazing" in a Commons debate on the service and although his position looked secure last night, the prospect of another potentially dangerous tussle with the courts was causing serious concern among ministers.

Derek Lewis, who was sacked on Monday as Director-General of the Prison Service, yesterday issued a writ against Mr Howard, whose troubles were compounded by the resignation of a Prisons Board director over his treatment of Mr Lewis. Geoffrey Keyes, a non-executive director, said he strongly believed that Mr Lewis should have remained in office; another non-executive director is also considering standing down.

The developments led to Alan Beith of the Liberal Democrats adding to the calls for Mr Howard to resign, while Labour's Jack Straw said Shadow Home Secretary's position was untenable. Downing Street reiterated, however, that Mr Howard continued to enjoy the Prime Minister's full support.

Mr Lewis's writ cites a series of incidents which he claims show that Mr Howard regularly interfered in the day-to-day running of the prisons. Mr Howard's denial of such interference is the prime reason given for by ministers for the back-stopping at Mr Lewis and not him.

The writ says that Mr Howard tried to alter search plans drawn up after an

escape from Whitemoor in September last year; instructed Mr Lewis to make statements critical of the Prison Officers Association, and required him to go to the Home Office on average once daily to discuss operational matters.

It also contests Mr Howard's claim that he did not try to force the suspension of John Marriott, the Parkhurst governor, after the escape of three dangerous prisoners in January. The writ mentions the "extreme and unjustified pressure" exerted on Mr Lewis by Mr Howard to have Mr Marriott suspended. It also says that Mr Howard set a deadline for Mr Marriott to go

Lewis writ..... 2
William Rees-Mogg..... 20
Letters..... 21

and said that he would overrule him if he did not comply.

Mr Lewis's action infuriated ministers. Conservative Party sources said last night that the writ amounted to little more than a "glorified press release" and was clearly designed to enhance Mr Lewis's claim for compensation. Sources said that Mr Howard would reply "robustly" to all the charges against him and deny that he told Mr Lewis to suspend Mr Marriott.

Mr Howard will also tell the Commons today that he has acted entirely properly within the terms of the agreement governing the relationship between the Prison Service and the Home Secretary. This states that while he would not normally become involved in the day-to-day management of the service, he would expect to be consulted by the Director General on the handling of

copying faxing imaging printing computing

Free software

with the BJ-200ex

White stocks last the
Canon BJ-200ex
comes with free Avery
LabelPro software and
inkjet labels. This enables you
to create high quality,
professional labels
from a compact Bubble
Jet printer. For further
information freephone
0500 246246.

If anyone can Canon can.

Canon

Marines' new ship crashes on slipway

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A £140 million helicopter assault ship for the Royal Marines has been damaged after an accident during an informal launching ceremony.

The 20,500-tonne carrier HMS Ocean, which is due to be in service by 1998, was running smoothly down the slipway at the Kvaerner Govan yard on the Clyde when wooden supports broke away.

Witnesses to last week's private launching said that the bow of the ship crashed down on to concrete, damaging the hull, before reaching the water. One report said the

ship also hit a tug, although this was not confirmed by the Ministry of Defence. One spectator said: "It was extremely hairy. You don't want to see a 20,500-tonne ship out of control coming towards you."

The ship has been under construction at the Govan yard, owned by the Norwegian shipbuilding company Kvaerner. The British company VSEL, based at Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, is the prime builder. After completion, HMS Ocean will be fitted for her military role at the Barrow yard.

The cost of repairs will have to be met by the shipbuilders, who signed a contract which is understood to have included liability for any accident during launch.

A VSEL spokesman said: "The extent of the damage is currently being assessed and it will be rectified." It was hoped that the repairs could be accommodated within the existing timescale for completion of the vessel.

The helicopter carrier is being built for the Royal Marines to replace the old HMS Hermes, which was sold to the Indian navy.

Cunningham election defeat

John Cunningham, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, lost his place in the Shadow Cabinet in yesterday's elections.

The defeat for one of Labour's most senior figures was the only surprise in a poll that saw Clare Short, Labour's spokeswoman on women's issues, elected for the first time. Donald Dewar, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, is to become the new Labour chief whip.

French banks raise their rates

Four of France's largest banks announced a rise in the basic lending rate last night in a move that brings further economic and political pressure on the embattled Government of Prime Minister Alain Juppé. The increase from 7.9 per cent to 8.2 per cent is the first tightening of credit conditions since last December. Terrorist ultimatum, page 14

Appeal fails

A hospital consultant has been disciplined by an NHS trust after writing to The Times about the shortage of intensive-care beds. Dr Bob Bown has lost his appeal against a formal warning issued over the letter. Page 9

TV & RADIO 46-47
WEATHER 24
CROSSWORDS 24-48

LETTERS 21
OBITUARIES 23
WILLIAM REES-MOGG 20

ARTS 35-37
CHESS & BRIDGE 43
COURT & SOCIAL 22

TRAVEL NEWS 40, 41
BOOKS 38-39
LAW REPORT 34

Debutant delivers deadly line in dictation at Dispatch Box

AS WE debate how far ministers are responsible for "operational" matters, your sketch-writer remembers trying to counter (as an MP) a hostile question to the late Nicholas Ridley from Dennis Skinner, about defects in the rail service from London to Derby.

Ridley had replied that this was "an operational matter, for the Chairman of British Rail". So I jumped up and asked him whether it was not true that the service was in fact much improved.

Ridley mumbled, in his bored way: "As I refuse the

brickbats, so I must refuse the bouquets. This is an operational matter, for the Chairman of British Rail." Or words to that effect. God rest his soul. Intellectual honesty is water in the desert of British politics.

Which is why the new Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth, so impresses. I watched this latest Scot join the Cabinet make his debut at Scottish Questions yesterday afternoon.

The Scottish Conservative Party in Parliament numbers eleven: a small pond. Yet it



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

already contains two very big fish. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, are big and getting bigger.

To watch Mr Forsyth is to see another serious contender. With the Tory Right now doubtful who leads it, this most thoughtful of right-wingers grows even more

interesting. Mr Forsyth has grown in Dispatch Box skill. Yesterday he was cool, assured and deadly.

Mr Forsyth listens to the question, thinks on his feet, then gets properly to grips with it. Whatever defensive skill ministers may show in turning aside the argument, it is still a joy to see a politician impatient to engage with it.

Forsyth, a small, stooped figure, crouches bright-eyed on the front bench like a panther who cannot wait to pounce.

He leaps at the Dispatch Box, confident of his intellectual mastery, unafraid of what anyone may throw at him, because he understands his own argument. He speaks in a coiled, measured, very slightly menacing way, as though dictating.

Hazard reporters will need little work on a Forsyth answer: the phrasing, the grammar, the balance of subordinate clauses — almost the

punctuation — are all there. One has little difficulty in believing the rumour that his daughter used to keep puff-adders as pets.

The new Scottish Secretary has plainly decided to run home a simple message whenever he can: that a Scottish Parliament's "harten tax" will hammer Scotland. Running rings round questioners, he took a mischievous delight in ambushing them from unexpected quarters — praising, for instance, the general secretary of the Scottish TUC, with whom it

appears Scots Labour MPs have had a falling out.

In case Mr Forsyth should have any doubt of his ability to win the argument, I can assure him that he always can.

Sometimes he looks like the leading car in a race. Where others go flat out, Mr Forsyth is still only in second gear. Winning will not be his problem. His problem is two-sided.

First, he can look and sound like a natural stage-villain: a well-cast Lago. He lacks apparent warmth. To

remedy that, he should study old video-tapes of David Hunt as Welsh Secretary. Second, intellectual mastery can lead to incantation.

Yesterday he told the House: "I may be the last Scottish Secretary with the power to argue for Scotland from within a United Kingdom Cabinet".

Ministers are not supposed to contemplate defeat. If Mr Forsyth could learn a little more coddliness and circumspection, nothing would stop him: but this sketchwriter, for one, would be sorry.

Writ alleges daily intervention

Lewis details how Home Secretary interfered in job

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD intervened directly in the running of the Prison Service, including ordering its director-general to make hostile public statements about the Prison Officers' Association, according to a writ issued by Derek Lewis, the former Director-General, yesterday.

Alleged details of the Home Secretary or Home Office's intervention in operational issues on an almost daily basis were outlined in a writ issued by Mr Lewis claiming wrongful dismissal as head of the Prison Service.

The writ, alleging pressures applied through ministerial interference, was delivered to the Treasury solicitors yesterday after Mr Lewis had spent several hours consulting with his legal advisers.

It says that any targets that Mr Lewis failed to meet were substantially caused or contributed to by the "high level of involvement" by the Home Secretary. The writ lists 12 areas where Mr Howard is accused of intervening:

1. He is alleged to have intervened in an attempt to

alter searching plans drawn up by the Prison Service after the escape of five IRA men from Whitemoor top security jail in September 1994.

2. He allegedly put Mr Lewis under "extreme and unjustified pressure" on January 10 to suspend John Marriott as Governor of Parkhurst jail when Mr Lewis had decided to move him to another post. The pressure is said to have included Mr Howard suggesting that he would over-rule Mr Lewis if he did not comply with the Home Secretary's idea.
3. Mr Howard's alleged insistence that Mr Marriott's removal be "today" — the day he made a statement to the Commons — in spite of objections made by Mr Lewis.
4. He allegedly required Mr Lewis to make public statements "highly critical" of action by the Prison Officers' Association. This is believed to be Mr Lewis's outburst after the escape from Parkhurst in January when he accused the association of obstructing an internal inquiry.
5. Mr Howard is said to

have put pressure on Mr Lewis to increase the severity of internal disciplinary action against prison officers and governors.

6. He allegedly required Mr Lewis to attend the Home Office on average once a day to discuss operational matters.
7. The alleged refusal by Mr Howard in September 1995 to allow the Prison Service to proceed with an operational decision to cut the number of jails holding category A inmates to improve security and save money.
8. The alleged failure by Mr Howard to devote sufficient time to consider policy proposals to bring in restrictions on home leave to protect the public. This resulted in a delay of about a year.
9. A 1½-year delay said to be induced by the "repeated personal involvement" of Mr Howard or his agents in recruiting a personnel director for the Prison Service.
10. The alleged requirement by Mr Howard that Mr Lewis delay urgently needed operational restructuring of area manager arrangements.
11. The "failure" of Mr Howard to provide resources to avoid delay in implementing the Woodcock security recommendations after the Whitemoor escape, despite assurances given to the Commons.
12. Mr Howard's "dilatory" consideration of proposed Code of Operating standards forming the basis of introduction of performance audit standards.

Countdown to governor's move from Parkhurst

EVENTS leading to the removal of John Marriott from Parkhurst jail are at the heart of allegations about Michael Howard's involvement in day-to-day running of the Prison Service (Richard Ford writes).

Mr Marriott left the governor's post after meetings in London and on the Isle of Wight to discuss his future in the aftermath of the second escape from a top-security prison within three months.

Monday January 9: Derek Lewis and senior advisers decide Mr Marriott should move from Parkhurst within a month.

Tuesday Jan 10, 9.30am: Philippa Drew, then director of custody in the Prison Service, arrives at Parkhurst prison for a meeting with Mr Marriott. She tells him that it has been decided there should be a change of governor. It is to be an orderly handover taking place in three to four weeks.

9am-10am: Mr Lewis meets Mr Howard at the Home Office only hours before the Home Secretary is to make a statement on the escape to the Commons. Mr Lewis tells the minister he will move Mr Marriott within four weeks.

(Mr Lewis says he came

under intense pressure from Mr Howard to suspend the governor. He was given a deadline to agree and told that if he did not Mr Howard might overrule him.)

The Director-General leaves the meeting and returns later after a paragraph is drafted saying Mr Marriott will be removed "today". Mr Lewis objects to the word "today".

Noon: Miss Drew has lunch with Mr Marriott at the governor's home.

14.15: They return to Parkhurst.

14.45: Peter Kitteridge, Prison Service area manager, arrives at Parkhurst for discussions about three to four-week orderly handover.

15.45: Miss Drew receives telephone call. She writes down what she is told, then returns to the governor's office visibly distressed. The call was not from Mr Lewis.

15.50: Miss Drew makes a telephone call to check she has received the correct message. She then tells Mr Marriott and Mr Kitteridge that the governor is to lose his post immediately. Within minutes Mr Howard tells MPs in the Commons that Mr Marriott is being removed that day.

The writ makes clear that Mr Lewis is seeking damages equivalent to lost salary, bonus payments up to September 1996 and other "consequential" losses. Mr Lewis is also seeking a declaration that his sacking was unlawful. The writ, drawn up by Russell Jones and Walker, solicitors to Mr Lewis's trade union the First Division Association, makes it clear that no disciplinary action had been taken against the former Director-General before he was sacked.

By initiating High Court action, lawyers expect to get access to documents that will outline the involvement of Mr Howard.

Continued from page 1

operational matters which could give rise to grave public or parliamentary concern.

Mr Howard's close colleagues said last night that he had an answer to every allegation that had been laid against him and that Labour would have "egg on its face" at the end of the debate. Even so,



Michael Howard, top, leaving the Cabinet Office and Derek Lewis outside his union solicitors' office in central London yesterday afternoon

Howard pledges to come out fighting

ministers were dismayed that they were embroiled in an increasingly bitter row with Mr Lewis for the third successive day.

The former prisons chief had stepped up his attack by releasing a dossier of confidential letters describing his relationship with the Home Office. He disclosed that he

twice wrote to Mr Howard twice last week questioning the Leamington report, which he said was incomplete and not worth the £600,000 it had cost to produce.

Mr Howard was spared another potential embarrassment last night, however, when the Home Affairs Select Committee decided not to

recall Mr Lewis to give further evidence.

The committee split on party lines and the decision was reached only on the casting vote of the Conservative chairman, Sir Ivan Lawrence.

William Rice-Mogg said *Diary*, page 20 *Letters*, page 21

The Telegraph statement said: "We received expressions of interest from and had extensive discussions with a number of prominent figures from other media organisations. We concluded that the strongest candidates were from within."

Simon Heffer, deputy editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, is tipped to become the new Editor of the *Spectator*.

Release of letters is part of media campaign

By RICHARD FORD

DEREK LEWIS claimed yesterday that the Leamington report into the Parkhurst escape was "unbalanced, selective and inaccurate".

In two confidential letters which he had sent to the Home Secretary, Mr Lewis criticises the document for being based on partial and second-hand opinions and of ignoring evidence provided by senior managers.

Mr Lewis, sacked on Monday, opened up a new offensive against Michael Howard by releasing the letters, written earlier this month. It was the latest salvo in a swiftly organised media campaign.

Within hours of being fired, he had hired his own public relations advisers who organised a string of television and radio appearances. He is being advised by Millbank PR, a small public relations firm run by Diana Saltman and Jackie Murphy, whom he has known since his days with UK Gold, the satellite television channel.

The letters show that he wrote to Mr Howard during the Conservative conference, alleging that the inquiry report by Sir John Leamington was not wholly balanced. "In many cases, the report appears to be based on partial opinions given in interviews. In some cases second hand, rather than on substantive, impartial evidence," he wrote on October 12.

The letter adds: "In many cases, hard evidence has not been sought or, where provided by the (Prison) Board, has been ignored or dismissed. Examples include that on morale, paperwork, instructions and training. I do not think the evidence, whether opinion or fact, has been presented in a balanced way."

Mr Lewis's claims of ministerial interference in the running of the service is supported in comments in a letter sent to the Leamington inquiry by Sir Duncan Nichol, a non executive director of the Prisons Board. He wrote: "Ministerial involvement too detailed."

The letters, released through the First Division Association, which represents senior civil servants, imply that Mr Howard should have been prepared to continue to support him in his task of overhauling the service.



Moore: job switch

Sunday man wins the Daily Telegraph

By ALEXANDRA FREEMAN MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CHARLES MOORE, Editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, has been appointed editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, ending three weeks of uncertainty and speculation at the two broadsheet titles.

Mr Moore, 38, will replace Max Hastings, 49, who resigned to become Editor of the London *Evening Standard* early next year. Dominic Lawson, Editor of the *Telegraph*-owned *Spectator* magazine, is to be Editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*.

The Canadian entrepreneur Conrad Black, owner of the *Telegraph*, had initially indicated that he intended to fill Mr Hastings's post with an internal candidate. However, it has emerged that he first offered the job to Andrew Neil, the broadcaster and former Editor of *The Sunday Times*, and to Paul Dacre, Editor of the *Daily Mail*.

Mr Dacre, having initially indicated that he would be prepared to join *The Daily Telegraph* on a high salary, changed his mind when his editorial budget at the *Daily Mail* was increased.

Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, owners of *The Daily Mail* and the *Evening Standard*, confirmed that Mr Dacre had turned down the *Telegraph* editorship. "We talked about his editorial plans and I agreed that the company would underwrite them and this gave him an enormous enthusiasm to stay. It was not necessary to raise his salary."

Sources said that Mr Neil would accept the *Telegraph* editorship if he was allowed to continue his high-profile television and radio work. He managed to raise the *Telegraph's* offer even higher, but turned it down to concentrate on broadcasting.

The *Telegraph* statement said: "We received expressions of interest from and had extensive discussions with a number of prominent figures from other media organisations. We concluded that the strongest candidates were from within."

Simon Heffer, deputy editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, is tipped to become the new Editor of the *Spectator*.

Minister denies softer line on IRA

The Government denied Unionist claims yesterday that it had changed its position on the decommissioning of IRA weapons. Michael Ancram, Northern Ireland Minister, repeated that the IRA must begin to decommission before all-party talks, but emphasised a more flexible approach, saying that nobody had a "monopoly of wisdom".

His comments came after Sir Patrick Mayhew, Northern Ireland Secretary, said that he would consider alternative suggestions from a proposed international disarmament commission.

GP's to be tested

Measures to raise the standards of doctors who look badly were promised by Sir Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, yesterday. His new treatment provided for must be based on evidence of clinical effectiveness and value for money. Doctors will have to undergo regular refresher courses to keep abreast of medical advances.

Parents' £50,000

Francis Auld, cleared of murdering Amanda Duffy, 19, at a car park in Hamilton, near Glasgow, in May 1992, has been ordered to pay £50,000 damages to her family. The Court of Session ruling came after Joe and Kate Duffy brought a civil action against Mr Auld, 22, who was freed after the criminal case against him was not proven.

Divorce defence

The Lord Chancellor responded to criticism of his proposed shake-up of divorce law yesterday, saying that a one-year, no-fault plan was designed to encourage opportunities for reconciliation. Lord Mackay of Clashfern was speaking at the re-launch of the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council as Marriage Care.

Leading article, page 21

Youth freed

One of two Asian youths accused of murdering Richard Everett, 15, in a street attack in north London was freed at the Old Bailey on the orders of the judge. Mrs Justice Steel directed the jury to find Abdul-Hal, 20, not guilty of murder and four other charges "as a matter of law". The trial against another youth continues today.

Police own goal

A policeman working undercover to spot British hooligans among football supporters at the match between Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest on Tuesday night was hit on the head with a truncheon by a French policeman. PC Graham Murray, of Nottinghamshire police, fell down but received only minor injuries and was back on duty yesterday.



The last thing people pick up before going shopping.

Housewives are far more likely to take notice of information from the radio than any other medium, before going shopping. In fact, Commercial Radio has a larger audience even than Commercial TV, right up until 4pm.

Commercial Radio. Its time has come.

SOURCE: RADIO IN PEOPLE'S LIVES, BASIL QUINN, 1994

For more information about advertising on Commercial Radio, contact your advertising agency.

2020 10/19/95

Woman friend's issues for

Car chublo

Flures den center film

British Legion new source

£1

Injuries leave mother unable to bring up daughter she had longed for

Woman burnt at friend's barbecue sues for £500,000

By Emma Wilkins

A MOTHER, who suffered horrific burns when a friend poured methylated spirits on a garden barbecue, has no prospect of leading a normal life again, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

Julia Chute, 48, who is suing for damages, says that she was so badly injured in the accident five years ago that she is unable to care for her daughter, Arabella, at home. The child, who was aged six at the time, was sent away to boarding school.

"I would never have sent Arabella away if I hadn't had the accident," Mrs Chute, from Winchester, said. "She's the first girl in my husband's family for five generations. She is so precious to us."

Mrs Chute, whose husband Robin is the estates director at Winchester College, was at a lunch party in her friend Amanda St Aubyn's garden, when the accident happened. Mrs St Aubyn, from Stockbridge, Hampshire, poured methylated spirits on the lit barbecue, which formed a fireball that blew on to Mrs Chute.

She suffered burns to 21 per cent of her body, developed a life-threatening infection and has undergone ten major operations.

The accident was witnessed by Arabella and Mrs Chute's son, Charles, then 11, who suffered burns to his shoulder. Mrs Chute, who is in constant pain from burns to her neck, arms, chest and stomach, and suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, is seeking damages relating to her future loss of earnings and costs of treatments, estimated at £500,000. General damages of £70,000 for pain and suffering have already been agreed with Mrs St Aubyn's insurers, who admit liability. It is understood that the two women remain friends.

Mrs Chute had worked as a bilingual personal assistant to a wine merchant. She gave up her job when she had her first child, but was intending to return to work when the accident happened. Her injuries mean she will never work again, the court was told.

Mrs Chute told the court: "There is never a moment when I am free of pain. I have shooting pains which I describe as being like bee stings. Sometimes they are so severe they make me jump."

"I sleep very badly. If I am lucky I get about one or two hours' uninterrupted sleep. Each morning and evening,

Mrs Chute removes pressure garments which she wears under her clothes and applies cream to her burns. "I can't get through a day unless I have a rest at about 4pm for an hour."

Household tasks such as cleaning, ironing and washing leave Mrs Chute exhausted. She employs a housekeeper to carry out the domestic duties that she once did herself. Mr Chute, who looks after Winchester College's land interests, helps to prepare vegetables for cooking.

The damages claim includes the costs of domestic help, the expense of adapting and making clothes to cover scars on her neck and the cost of alternative treatments, including reflexology and the Alexander Technique, which helps to relieve the pain.

Richard Methuen, for Mrs St Aubyn, suggested that Mrs Chute might be able to carry out translation work from home. But Anthony Ross, Mrs Chute's consultant at Addenbrooks Hospital, said she would never be able to work again. "She has suffered a shattering thing. I don't feel she has any prospect of further employment."

The hearing was adjourned.



Julia Chute yesterday. She has undergone ten operations and is in constant pain

Motorist fined for splashing walkers

By Edward Gorman

A MOTORIST who drove through a puddle, soaking an elderly pedestrian and his granddaughter, was fined £50 yesterday and had three penalty points put on his licence.

Brendan McNulty, 26, who drove through the puddle on Blackpool promenade, was also fined £420 by the town's magistrates for failing to produce his MoT test certificate and insurance documents, and had a further three points imposed for those offences.

McNulty, a hotel manager who has returned to Blackpool after living in Italy, was convicted in his absence in 1991. He had been charged with driving without due care and attention after a police woman saw the puddle incident, which the court was told left the pedestrians in a state of shock. McNulty's solicitor, Chris Capaldi, said that he had not intended to splash them and had immediately offered them £30 to help with their dry-cleaning bills.

"That was the money he had on him at the time," Mr Capaldi said. "He also offered them a free night's accommodation at the hotel he managed at the time." Mr Capaldi said that McNulty was forced by another car to swerve.

McNulty said later that he was considering an appeal. "It was a genuine mistake and I pulled over to apologise. They seemed happy with my offer but the police got involved."

STARTS HERE



IN THE TIMES

Julia Llewellyn Smith meets Grif Rhys Jones, comedy tycoon

PLUS

Bernard Levin, Caitlin Moran, Lynne Truss and Education

IN THE TIMES



Win a £3,000 holiday for two in Nepal, in Weekend

PLUS

The Magazine, Weekend Money, Car 95, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

Carey criticises churches that block baptism

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE Archbishop of Canterbury criticised clergy who are reluctant to baptise the babies of parents who do not attend church.

Dr George Carey, speaking on a visit to the Dioceses of Worcester and Lichfield last night, argued that the Church of England's mission was to the entire nation. He told clergy and laity "not to build too many barriers around church life."

Stepping into a theological minefield which is certain to be debated by the General Synod over the next few years, the Archbishop said: "I remain immensely grateful that the church to which my parents took me to be baptised did not turn them away on the grounds of their non-attendance on a Sunday. It was a generous church that received them and perceived the flickering faith they had."

Dr Carey warned against using the finer points of doctrine to close doors on people. "We must beware of introducing policies that sound theologically correct but which fail to encompass the spiritual aspirations of those whom we serve," he said.

Baptism has become an increasingly contentious issue in a church with deep divisions over questions of sexuality and churchmanship. Some evangelists and traditionalists are concerned that millions of people in Britain are nominally Anglican and were baptised in their local parish

church, but comparatively few attend church as adults, except possibly to get married. Some clergy, largely from the evangelical wing of the Church, are reluctant to baptise babies where parents are not churchgoers, offering them a service of blessing or "thanksgiving after child-birth" instead.

In law, clergy have to baptise babies from within their parish but the Church accepts that baptism can be delayed to prepare the parents. Tony Higgin, rector of Hawkwell in Essex and founder of Action for Biblical Witness to our Nation, said: "If the Archbishop gives the impression that anyone can come for baptism whether they have thought about it or not, that is unhelpful."

"This is a real problem. To baptise anyone without preparation is a gross misuse of the Sacrament. But to take a totally strict line is really lacking in being merciful. The happy solution is if a parent comes to faith. But if they don't, you have to weigh up whether you are misusing the Sacrament on the one hand or being exclusive on the other."

"You get a range of parishes that seem to baptise anything that moves, and some that don't even believe in infant baptism. If neither parent can make the promises, such as 'I turn to Christ, with integrity, we would encourage them to have a blessing or thanksgiving service.'"



Turner leaving BBC

ITV lures lottery presenter for £1m

By Alexandra Ffrench, Media Correspondent

ITV has poached Anthea Turner from the BBC's National Lottery Live programme in a deal which will make her one of the highest-paid presenters on British television.

Turner signed a two-year contract yesterday with ITV, which is believed to be worth £1 million. She already earns an estimated £500,000 as a presenter on GMTV, the breakfast television station.

The deal will be a blow to the BBC. Although ratings for the National Lottery draw have been steadily declining from a peak of 18 million and critics have panned the programme, it attracts 12 million viewers and boosts audiences for the whole of the Saturday evening schedule.

Turner will leave when her contract expires in April. At ITV she will work on a primetime show called All You Need Is Love and will then develop other programme ideas.

British Legion scratches a new source of income

By Alexandra Ffrench, Media Correspondent

THE Royal British Legion is entering the charity scratch-card war by launching its own version of the game with a record top prize of £100,000.

The legion is aiming to raise £800,000 through the sale of four million £1 scratch-cards for its Poppy Day appeal, which starts next Monday. The odds on the jackpot are one in a million.

Colonel Bobby Hanscomb, assistant general secretary of the Royal British Legion, whose patron is the Queen, said that the legion had to keep abreast of modern fundraising methods. "We are not finding it any easier to raise money from collecting tins or door-to-door appeals."

He added that he hoped that people would be attracted to the Poppy Day scratch-cards by the fact that of every £1 spent 20p would go direct to the charity. Only 5.6 per cent of the proceeds of cards sold by Camelot, organisers of



The legion card with a £100,000 jackpot

the National Lottery, goes direct to the National Lottery's Charities Board.

The launch of the Poppy Day scratch-card—the first to display a charity's name and logo on its face—comes amid growing concerns about the effects the National Lottery has had on charitable donations. The National Council of Voluntary Organisations has estimated that individual giving to charities could decline by £276 million this year as a

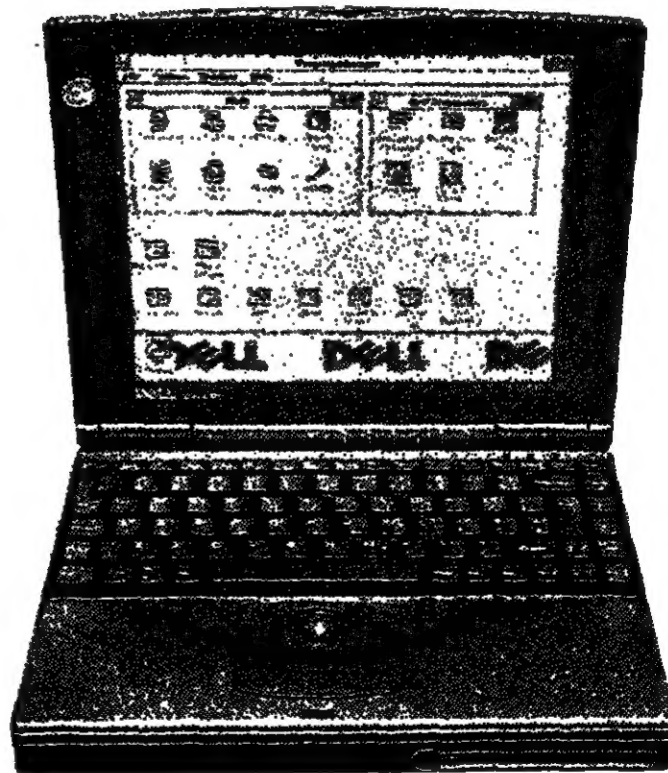
result of competition from the National Lottery.

Lord Maccroft, whose Scratch-n-Win scratchcard organisation is running the Poppy Day game for the legion, said he expected Camelot to raise the top prize for its scratchcard game from £50,000 to £100,000. "They will do anything to squash us," he said. A spokeswoman from Camelot said: "We certainly see a top prize of £100,000 as very viable."

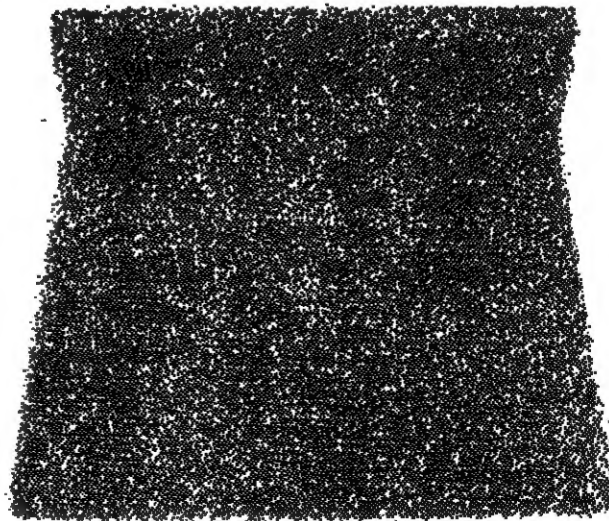
Sales of cards have exceeded all expectations since Camelot launched its first Instant game on March 21. Although Camelot's card sales have declined from a peak of £44 million a week, they are still running at between £26 million and £29 million a week. Total sales so far have topped £1 billion.

The legion's last Poppy Day appeal raised £15 million towards its overall income of £24 million. Last year the charity had to take £2.8 million from reserves because of cashflow problems.

All the plus points of a desktop



minus the desk.



THE DELL LATITUDE FAMILY
FROM £1,399 (+ VAT & DELIVERY)



Now you really don't need a desk to enjoy the benefits of desktop computing. Our Latitude family of notebooks includes models with Pentium® processors with speeds up to 90MHz and removable hard drives of up to 1.2Gb. You may not believe your eyes, but you won't have to strain them, either: our screens are bigger and brighter than ever. And you can keep on and on looking. Dell offers industry-leading battery technology and advanced power management to let you stay out of the office longer. But what happens when you're back?

Your Dell Latitude can be integrated seamlessly into your company's desktop environment.

With Latitude prices starting at just £1,399 (+ VAT & delivery), how much longer can you afford to stay stuck at your desk? Call Dell now for details on 01344 720000.

Dell, the Dell logo and Latitude are registered trademarks of the Dell Computer Corporation. Intel, Intel Inside and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Delivery is charged at £25 + VAT per system. Prices correct at 14.10.95. Dell Latitude is offered (subject to terms) to business buying 1 year or more. The prices listed reflect the information available at time of going to press. Prices change frequently. All prices and specifications are subject to change without notice or obligation. The photographical product may not always match the specification in this context. The picture is not intended to be representative of the actual amount of space quality. Price does not include VAT & delivery. Dell Computer Corporation Ltd, Millhouse Lane, Wotton, Berkshire, RG21 1RW.

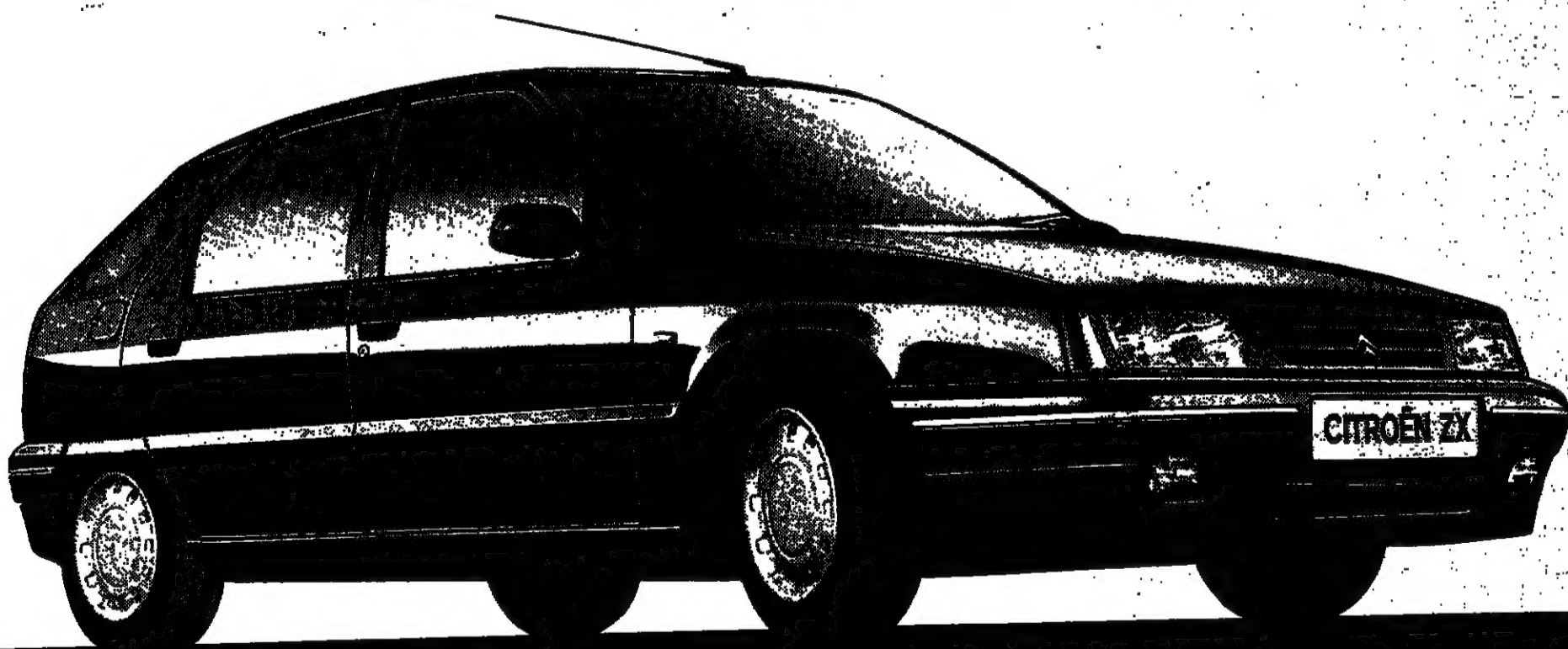


DIRECT

01344 720000
Between 8am & 8pm Weekdays, 10am to 4pm Sat.



SPEND 24 HOURS WITH IT. SAVE £1,000 ON IT.



**THE CITROËN ZX 24 HOUR TEST DRIVE.
£1,000 CASHBACK.**

Time spent with the Citroën ZX is time well spent. You'll soon discover just how rewarding it is to drive.

So we're offering a 24 hour test drive to drivers aged between 21 and 70 until October 31st! Not that you'll need that long to appreciate the ZX's superb handling. Its programmed rear wheel steering

produces a sure-footed and immensely comfortable ride that gives you a feeling of complete control.

You can have hours of pleasure in the ZX of your choice. There are 3 or 5 door hatchback and estate models available, with a range of petrol and diesel engines.*

What's more, we're also currently

offering a £1,000 cashback on all new ZX models† So prices that normally start at £9,695* are now even more attractive.

To book your 24 hour test drive you'll need to contact your local Citroën dealer. You can phone free on 0800 262 262 for their details. But hurry. Offers like these don't come along everyday.

CITROËN ZX

NOTHING MOVES YOU LIKE A CITROËN.

*EX WORKS PRICE FOR £2.14 3 DOOR CAR SHOWING 21. CITROËN'S DOOR AND EX-EXPORTS EX-EXPORTS PRICES INCLUDE VAT BUT EXCLUDE REGISTRATION PLATES DELIVERY AND 24 MONTH ROAD FUND LICENCE. †24 HOUR TEST DRIVE AVAILABLE ON ALL ZX MODELS EXCLUDING VOLCANO AND 1.9I MODELS BETWEEN 1995 AND 1996. EX-EXPORTS PRICES INCLUDE VAT BUT EXCLUDE REGISTRATION PLATES DELIVERY AND 24 MONTH ROAD FUND LICENCE. *EX WORKS PRICE FOR £2.14 3 DOOR CAR SHOWING 21. CITROËN'S DOOR AND EX-EXPORTS EX-EXPORTS PRICES INCLUDE VAT BUT EXCLUDE REGISTRATION PLATES DELIVERY AND 24 MONTH ROAD FUND LICENCE. †24 HOUR TEST DRIVE AVAILABLE ON ALL ZX MODELS EXCLUDING VOLCANO AND 1.9I MODELS BETWEEN 1995 AND 1996. EX-EXPORTS PRICES INCLUDE VAT BUT EXCLUDE REGISTRATION PLATES DELIVERY AND 24 MONTH ROAD FUND LICENCE.

Vauxhall ex
company ca
shop-floo

Man hel
in teach
killing ca

Murder arri

Policeman sh

I epileptic ro

Falcons sen

lag strikes o
baseball playe

هاتف الاموال

Vauxhall expands company car deal to shop-floor staff

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

VAUXHALL is offering more than 4,000 assembly-line workers the chance to use a company car, taking Britain's most popular pay perk on to the shop floor.

Manual workers have been told that they can have a car every 18 months in a rental scheme that could cost them less than £100 a month. Vauxhall will pay road tax and insurance in a scheme that is part of an attempt to break deadlocked pay negotiations. The scheme would be opened initially to workers with ten years' service at the plants in Luton, Bedfordshire, and Ellesmere Port, Merseyside.

It would include all the company's models, from a £7,000 Corsa up to the £25,000 Omega executive model. The vehicles on offer are "nearly new", an industry term for models that have spent a short life as demonstrators in dealerships, as company cars or in daily rental fleets. Some could

be just a few weeks old, with less than 6,000 miles on the clock. Workers would be free to choose any model.

Details of the deal have been put to unions after pay negotiations collapsed earlier this week. The company has offered 3.5 per cent on wages next year, a cost of living rise in 1997, plus a day's extra holiday. Vauxhall calculates that the total bill for the increase and its company car scheme would be about £12 million but unions have rejected the package and are threatening to ballot on a strike.

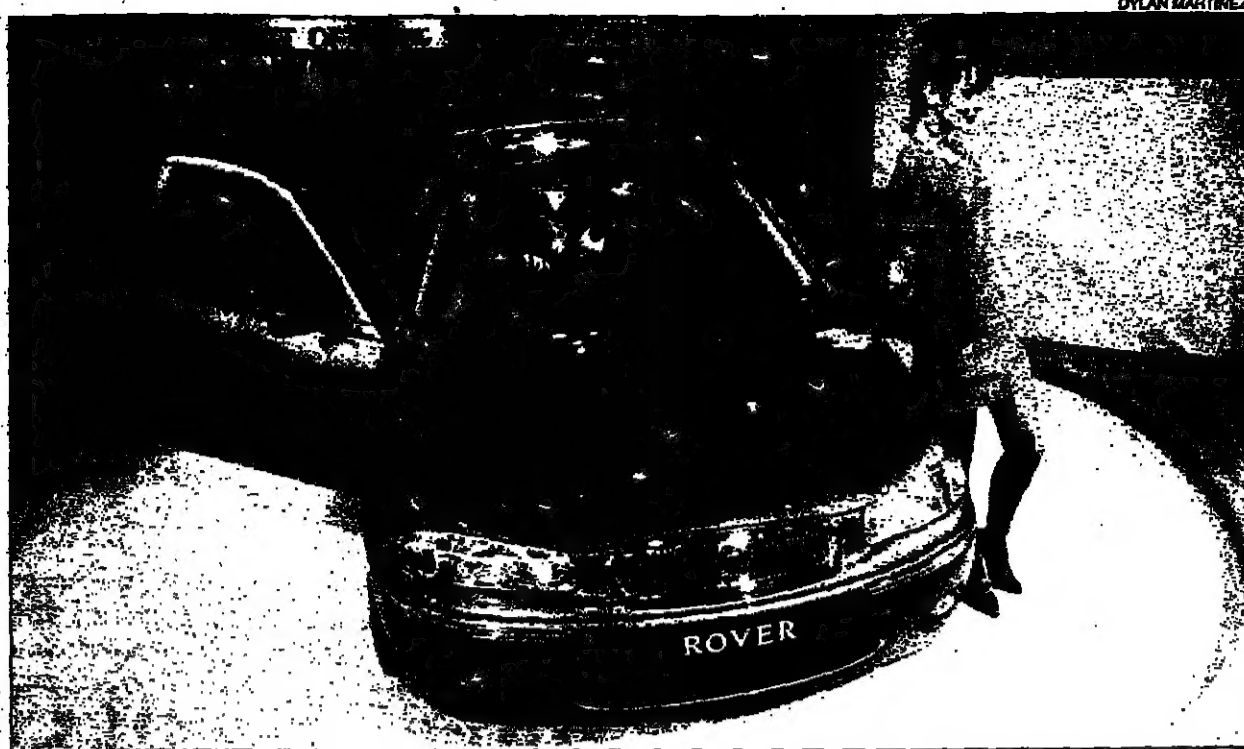
Bruce Warman, Vauxhall's director of personnel, said yesterday: "We think our workforce will like this scheme a lot. The deal is for ever and means that every 18 months or two years they can simply choose another model from the stock available."

Vauxhall has nearly 10,000 workers, and about 40 per

cent would qualify immediately for the scheme, called the Nearly New Car Roll. A shop-floor worker would be able to rent a Corsa for £95 a month, a Cavalier for about £120 a month or an Omega for about £200 a month.

Similar cheap rental schemes are already available in many car companies, but they are traditionally limited to managers and executives. The Inland Revenue taxes such employee perks as a benefit in kind.

Although the cars are officially classed as used, they are in mint condition. As with most carmakers, Vauxhall produces hundreds of models each year that are never sold as new. Dealers use them as demonstrators, while company management sometimes use them for only a few weeks. Daily rental companies use stock for a short time, then return it to manufacturers or send it to auctions.



THE Rover 200 Hatchback, above, was the most eagerly awaited car launched on the first day of the London Motor Show, as almost the only model not previewed before the doors opened at the Earls Court Exhibition Centre (Kevin Eason writes).

Rover takes wraps off

John Towers, Rover's chief executive, said the British company was in line for new investment that could create hundreds of jobs.

Each company is considering building a plant to make engines for Rover and BMW. A decision will be made this year. Mr Towers refused to confirm the poten-

tial investment but it is understood a new plant could cost £300 million and produce 500,000 engines a year.

Vauxhall is bidding for £150 million of investment to build the Corsa at Luton. Transferring from Spain might yield 1,000 jobs and double output at the plant.

Peugeot is considering making a successor to the 205

model at Ryton, Coventry, which has raised production from 1,600 to 2,250 cars a week and cut the workforce.

CAR 95

Motor Show special on Saturday
● £2 off entry to the show
● The top ten star cars
● Ten £300 in-car CD players to be won

Screening for breast cancer extended

By Jeremy Laurence, Health Correspondent

ROUTINE screening for breast cancer is to be extended to older women in a study announced by the Government yesterday. Women aged 65-69 are to be included in the study in an attempt to cut the death toll from breast cancer, which claims 14,000 lives a year.

Baroness Cumberlege, a junior Health Minister, said the study would test the effectiveness of routine screening beyond its current age limits of 50 to 64. Older women are entitled to screening every three years but only those up to 64 are routinely invited.

Lady Cumberlege was giving the Government's response to the Commons Select Committee on Breast Cancer Services. In July it said that routine breast screening in women aged 50-69 reduced a woman's chances of dying over the ensuing 12 years by 25 to 30 per cent and said that the upper age limit for inclusion in the call-and-recall system should be extended beyond 64.

Shell rules against sea disposal of Brent Spar

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

SHELL surprised the Government yesterday by ruling out any suggestion that the Brent Spar might yet be dumped at sea. The disclosure was made as independent assessors said a detailed study of the oil platform had shown it contained little or no toxic wastes. Shell's estimates were said to have been more accurate than those of Greenpeace. In the summer, Shell criticised its government supporters by capitalising on a Greenpeace campaign to abandon plans for an Atlantic dumping.

The Government remains committed to disposal at sea for about 50 big platforms coming to the end of their lives. Yesterday, John Wybrew, Shell UK director of corporate affairs, said the practicalities of public opinion still meant that the company would go for other options, such as recycling or an artificial reef.

The study of Brent Spar by Dr. Norberto Veritas, a cost-profit assessor, found that Shell's estimates for oil, sludges, radioactivity and heavy metals were more accurate than Greenpeace's. The radioactivity was too low to be classified under international rules.

Ole-Andreas Hafnor, vice-president of DNV, said: "The total amount of hydrocarbons is estimated to be 75 to 100 tonnes, compared with Shell's estimate of 33 and Greenpeace's original estimate of 5,500 tonnes." Greenpeace later admitted there were flaws in the way volunteers sampled the Brent Spar's tanks during its summer occupation.

Man held in teacher killing case

Police investigating the killing of a teacher in her sitting room arrested a 47-year-old man yesterday. Two brothers, aged 14 and 15, have already been remanded in custody by magistrates in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, accused of her murder.

Eve Howells, 48, was found beaten to death on a sofa at her home in the Dalton district of Huddersfield on August 31.

Murder arrest

Police investigating the murder of Vikki Thompson, attacked while walking her dog near her home in Ascot-on-Wychwood, Oxfordshire, have recovered a 20-year-old man who was questioned and freed last month.

Policeman shot

Police in Bristol have launched an inquiry after an officer was accidentally shot in the leg by a colleague as they put on equipment. The officer, who was hit in the thigh, underwent surgery at Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Epileptic robbed

A mother was robbed after she collapsed with an epileptic fit as she waited for her five-year-old daughter outside a primary school at Chesham St Mary, Essex. A man stole a carrier bag containing two videos.

Falcons seized

Police in Bedfordshire have seized six rare Eleonora's falcons, believed to have been smuggled into Britain. They were found at a house in Sandy, a mile from the headquarters of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Jet lag strikes out baseball players

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

AMERICAN baseball fans bemoaning their teams' lack of success have been given a new explanation: jet lag.

Doctors have examined the records of 19 teams, based on the east and west coasts, which often have to take long flights between time zones with little time to recover.

The severity of jet lag and the time needed to recover depends on the number of time zones crossed and the direction of travel, according to Dr Lawrence Recht and Dr William Schwartz, of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and Dr Robert Lew, of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Travelling from west to east is worse, requiring a longer recovery time, they say in

Nature. So if jet lag is a factor, teams from the west coast should do significantly worse in away games that involve long flights. So it proved.

For the three seasons between 1991 and 1993, home teams won 56 per cent of their games — the well-known "home field" advantage. But home teams won 62.9 per cent of their games if the visitors had travelled east.

The home team could, on average, expect to score 1.24 more runs than usual when their opponents had just completed eastward travel.

If the visiting team had travelled westward, home advantage was only moderately increased, to 56.2 per cent.

Body and Mind, page 18

Car insurance over £300? Call Admiral free on 0800 600 800

ADAMIRAL

The military rank of Umrao Singh (report and photograph, October 16) is that of subedar, not subahdar.

Tesco has asked us to make clear that the company does not make donations to political parties (Media and Marketing, October 17).

Why? Really do mean

Business

Class

of Mollanah Douglas 37's, Airbus A320, and Boeing 777

And services such as telephone check-in, baggage handling, meals and priority boarding are all available to save the business traveller valuable time.

Flights connect to a higher plane and experience the business class that's really class.

IBERIA

Reservations: 0121 430 0000

West's daughter tells of childhood sex abuse in cellar

By BILL FROST AND RICHARD DUCE

ONE of Frederick West's daughters told yesterday how she was sexually abused from the age of eight by him and her stepmother, Rosemary West, in the cellar of their Cromwell Street home.

Winchester Crown Court was told that the abuse continued until Anne Marie Davis ran away from the house in Gloucester when she was 15. Mrs Davis, now 31, was born to Frederick West and his first wife, Rena Costello. The remains of Ms Costello were discovered buried in a field 15 miles outside Gloucester.

Mrs Davis moved to Cromwell Street with her father and stepmother in 1972, when she was eight. Brian Leveson, QC, for the prosecution, asked her if she remembered her first sexual experience. "Yes I do," Mrs Davis said, her voice faltering. "How old were you?" Mr Leveson asked. "I was eight." "Who was involved?" "My stepmother and my father."

Mrs Davis described being taken downstairs to the cellar. "My father was in front. I was in the middle, my stepmother was behind. I was very frightened. I then had my clothes removed."

Asked who did this, Mrs Davis, in tears, replied: "Rosemary did. I was crying and just asking 'What is going on, what is happening?'"

At this point Mrs Davis became extremely upset, and said: "I was told that I should be very grateful and be lucky that I had such caring parents that thought of me, and they were going to help me to make sure that when I got married I would be able to satisfy my husband and keep my husband. I was led to believe that all loving parents behaved in the same way."

Mrs Davis said that during the sexual attack Rosemary West was holding her down and "laughing and sort of smirking".

"It hurt so much I just wished that I was dead. I felt I shouldn't be so ungrateful. They were doing this to help me." Afterwards she was instructed by the Wests to tell no one of what had happened.

Mrs Davis said she was subjected to further violent sexual attacks by her father and stepmother. She remembered her father "coming home from work and he had made a metal object. I think it was shaped like a U with two protruding handles."

"I felt unnerved. I don't know why. He said he had brought it as a toy for the children. The next time I saw it, my stepmother Rosemary asked me to go down into the basement. I was very apprehensive after the experience I recounted earlier."

"This object was against the wall. I felt frightened because my dad wasn't there. I was told to undress. I didn't want to but Rose was getting somewhat annoyed. 'I think I was strapped to the instrument. I was frightened. I was completely naked.'"

ROSEMARY WEST TRIAL

I was gagged. Rose started hitting me with her fists and hands, and with a belt, swearing at me, calling me names."

Then I remember my father being there. He had his work overalls on. I remember looking at my dad, pleading with him with my eyes. My father had sexual intercourse with me. Then he went to his room. "I think it was his lunch hour."

Asked how the incident ended, she claimed: "Rosemary sexually abused me." Later she was given a salt-water bath which Rosemary told her would sting but make her feel better. "She made me a cup of tea," Mrs Davis said. Looking at her stepmother sitting in the dock, she added: "She was so kind to me."

Mrs Davis claimed that when she was nine, her father would tell her stepmother to make sure bruises did not show. "It had to be on my torso and not my face. To hide any marks or bruises her parents would give her a note asking for her to be excused from games. Once, unknown to her, a teacher noticed bruising and she returned home to find a lady from 'the

welfare" had called on Rosemary West. "I was sent off to get changed... I remember the lady went and I had the biggest hiding of my life."

Mrs Davis also told the court that her father and stepmother doled out each other. "Rosemary had so much love for my dad, she would have done anything for him."

Mrs Davis recalled life at 25 Midland Road, Gloucester, where she had lived with her older sister Charmaine, whose remains were later found beneath the kitchen of the ground-floor flat.

Asked how she had got on with her stepmother at Midland Road, Mrs Davis said: "At first I used to call my stepmother Rose and my Dad smacked me one time. He said she was my mum and I was to call her mum. I never objected to anything. Charmaine used to aggravate Rosemary and try to upset her, antagonise her."

Asked how her stepmother reacted to Charmaine's behaviour, Mrs Davis said: "She used to smack us and tell us off, and Charmaine would never cry. I used to cry and plead with Charmaine to cry and show some emotion. But she wouldn't. She felt like if she cried she was giving in. I remember that one time Charmaine was tied to the bed."

Charmaine would talk to her about how her real mother would come and take her away one day. "I came home from school one afternoon and Charmaine wasn't at the house. I asked Rose where Charmaine was and she said her mum had come to take her."

"I didn't feel or seem concerned. I knew that's what Charmaine would have wanted. I knew that the smacks and hittings would stop now and that my sister was happy. She was where she wanted to be."

Rosemary West has denied murdering nine girls and a young woman, among them her own daughter Heather. The trial was adjourned until today, when members of the jury will visit the house in Cromwell Street.



Above the white cliffs: a hilltop view of the port facing privatisation. The mayor says it "should and must always remain in British hands."

Burghers of Calais fight for Dover's continental gateway

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY AND TIM JONES

FRENCH businessmen in Calais are pressing ahead with plans to bid for a controlling interest in the port of Dover to stop it from falling into "hostile hands".

They are prepared to pay up to £150 million for their historic rival, as a shield against further erosion of business on the crucial cross-Channel ferry route that provides 80 per cent of the French port's trade.

The Government is due to announce plans shortly to privatise Dover port. The French fear it could be bought by an operator who wanted to diversify more into cruise shipping, and wind down the ferry business in the face of tough competition from Eurotunnel.

Dover and Calais lie within sight of each other across 22

miles of often stormy sea. A business merger makes sense to City analysts, but there is strong opposition from the English side. The French would gain a huge marketing advantage by controlling a shipping route. One London analyst said: "Eurotunnel hasn't got sufficient capacity to handle all cross-Channel traffic and there will always be ferry operators. Sealing a route would give Calais a greater ability to control prices."

P & O, the ferry company, is also keen to bid for Dover. P & O pays about £12 million a year in taxes to the port. Although these are being reduced in the face of Eurotunnel competition, they are still a significant part of the company's operating costs.

P & O already owns Larnes port in Northern Ireland. In Dover, a recent opinion poll showed that 90 per cent of the 30,000 population opposed the expected French bid, 91 per cent of the 600 port employees were opposed to privatisation, and 75 per cent of staff said job security would be worsened.

The thought of the French flag flying over the old gateway to England has angered James Hood, the Mayor of Dover, who has written to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, in her capacity as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, to ask her to intervene. Mr Hood, a welder at the harbour, said that he found it difficult to conceal his anger. He said: "I represent a Labour-controlled council which is opposed on principle to the

harbour being privatised. But the thought that it could be run and controlled by the French is hard for a British person to take. It is an historic port which epitomises Britain and its spirit. It should and must always remain in British hands."

Gerard Barron, spokesman for the Calais chamber of commerce, said yesterday that Calais wanted a controlling interest in Dover to prevent it falling into "hostile hands". He said: "We would be disappointed if the people of Dover opposed our plans. It makes good sense and it is good business for both ports to work more closely together."

The Government is determined to go ahead with privatisation as a means of revitalising the port. Last year's pre-tax profits showed a heavy blow from discounting on port taxes charged to the ferry companies and from job reductions, tumbling from £11.4 million in 1993 to £5 million. Sales slipped from £51.3 million in 1993 to £45 million last year. In the first nine months of this year, Dover dealt with 13.8 million passengers compared with 15 million for the same period last year.

Such gloom makes a price of £150 million for the port seem high. More modest City estimates range between £75 million and £100 million — the latter based on the performance of Mersey Docks.



Dover and Calais became twin towns in 1973, recognising their modern interdependence despite centuries of Anglo-French hostilities. Calais was long a symbol of English ambitions. Mary Tudor, who died in 1558 — the year that the French recaptured the port — said: "When I am dead and opened you shall find Calais lying in my heart."

Richard Coeur de Lion departed from Dover on the Third Crusade, and in 1422 Henry V was brought back through Dover after his death in France. More recently, Dover played a vital part in the evacuation of troops from Dunkirk during the Second World War. Dover, whose coat of arms is shown above, has a population of 30,000. Calais, whose flag is below, has 100,000. Both towns are controlled by socialist councils, although Calais has a communist mayor.



You don't have to be a Direct Line customer to apply.

Sorry building societies, your mortgage rates are still too high.

(Direct Line is still £50* a month cheaper.)

*Typical Mortgage of £80,000 repayable over 25 years (300 monthly payments).

Lender	APR (Variable)	Monthly Repayments (after tax relief)	Monthly saving with Direct Line	Total Payable
WOOLWICH	8.6%	£594.98	£56.98	£178,470
HALIFAX	8.6%	£594.05	£56.13	£178,215
NATIONWIDE	8.5%	£592.91	£54.99	£177,873
DIRECT LINE	7.2%	£537.92	—	£161,376

APRs based on Standard Variable Rate Repayment Mortgages, current at 28th September 1995. MORTGAS has been calculated under current tax legislation which may alter.

Building societies have changed their rates. We've changed our rates. So nothing's really changed. You still save over £50 a month if you transfer your existing mortgage to Direct Line. Your legal costs are still limited to only £300 and you can still arrange everything from the comfort of your own home.



DIRECT LINE
MORTGAGES

0181 649 9099

LONDON

0161 831 9099

MANCHESTER

0141 221 9099

GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. TT8

Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 179 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 2BQ. Direct Line and the red telephone icon are the trade marks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with the permission of Direct Line Insurance plc. Direct Line mortgages from £20,000 to £300,000 are available for up to 25 years of the property's estimated or purchase price, whichever is the lower. Applicants must be aged 18 or over and Direct Line Financial Services reserves the right to decline any application. A first legal charge (standard security — Scotland) over the property and the securities on cover the amount of the loan (to be assigned) will be required to secure the property. The property must be fully insured for the duration of the loan. All rates quoted are for standard variable rate mortgages. Legal and valuation fees (included in the transfer of a mortgage to Direct Line are £200 & £125 respectively. This includes the borrower's own Direct Line's special arrangements for legal fees. The standard property valuation fee will be refunded to the borrower once the mortgage is set up. Further questions are available on request. Some mortgages may require payment of a fee to the existing lender when being transferred.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

For your added security all repayments will be recorded and the recording kept secure.

Whitehall admits smear campaign against Casement

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

WHITEHALL admitted yesterday that it used the homosexuality of the Irish nationalist Sir Roger Casement to discredit a campaign intended to save him from being hanged for treason.

The Home Office has released papers showing that Casement, who was hanged at Pentonville in August 1916 because of his attempts to recruit German aid for Irish independence, was the victim of a well-orchestrated "dirty tricks" campaign that had nothing to do with the charges against him.

Casement was a voracious homosexual who recorded his exploits in diaries. Documents made available at the Public Record Office in Kew yesterday show how government officials circulated them to journalists, politicians and other opinion formers who might have supported pleas for clemency.

The papers show how the diaries were given to the American ambassador in London in an attempt to diminish American- Irish support for the campaign to commute Casement's sentence.

The Cabinet was told on July 19, 1916, when it was considering the clemency plea that Casement "had for years been addicted to the grossest sodomitical practices". A paper from Sir Edward Troup, a Home Office official,

made clear the intention of using Casement's homosexuality to blacken his name.

As the Cabinet considered pleas from W.B. Yeats, John Masfield and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle among others, ministers were told that if Casement were executed "the knowledge of his immoral character, which is probably by this time fairly widespread in Ireland, will alienate sympathy and prevent his being treated as a martyr". Armed with this reassurance, clemency pleas were rejected.

Successive governments have since denied the existence of Casement's diaries, let alone that they had been used in a propaganda campaign. The diaries were finally made available to historians in 1959 and to the public last year.

The documents also show how the press — mostly the Daily Express — was used to condemn Casement as a homosexual. The Home Office carefully recorded every denunciation of Casement as "a moral degenerate", although there is not clear at what level the campaign was authorised. A total of 14 documents have been withheld for at least another ten years on national security grounds.

The papers suggest that the diaries were supplied to Whitehall by the Special Branch, which obtained them in a raid on Casement's London home. The Home Office sought advice from Harley Street doctors on Casement's "sexual perversion" and even the Archbishop of Canterbury was consulted. The Archbishop paid tribute to Casement's "capacity, his enthusiasm and his apparent straightforwardness" but refused to comment on his homosexuality or to back the plea for clemency.

It is clear that Casement's homosexuality had nothing to do with the case against him. In a paper to the Cabinet, Sir Emile Blackwell, an under-secretary at the Home Office, said: "It really has no relation to the actual offence with which he is charged."



Casement diaries seized in Special Branch raid

'Feel-good' factor eludes families

By IAN MURRAY

THERE is no sign of a "feel-good" factor in the latest set of family-spending figures published today by the Government. The average household is spending £5 more a week than a year ago but most of that increase is down to inflation.

Pay increases have pushed up the average gross household income by £16 a week, but after tax and inflation the average family has only £3 more to spend on luxuries than it did a year ago.

People spend most on food, as they have done ever since the annual review of family spending began in 1957. However, the gap between the amount spent on food and that spent on housing has narrowed from 21.2 per cent in 1960 to 1.4 per cent.

The average household spends 16 per cent on leisure goods and services. Tobacco is down to just 2 per cent of average spending from 6 per cent in 1960; but the average drinks bill is up from 3.2 per cent to 4.3 per cent of income.

The average income of the poorest 20 per cent of households is £79 a week compared with £83.70 a week of the highest-earning 20 per cent. □ Family Spending (Stationery Office, £54.95)

CAR

THE CHEAPEST PRICES OR YOUR MONEY BACK

CALL 0990 600 100

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

INSURANCE

£100 OFF YOUR NEXT Thomas Cook Holiday

WITH OPTION PLUS PROTECTION

FREE MOBILE PHONE + free extras package

10% OFF car alarms & immobilisers

From only £31 Green Flag Roadside Assistance

From only £31 Green Flag Roadside Assistance

Autodirect



The new Almera.

The car they don't want you to drive.

NISSAN

Some people think that the best things in life should be the preserve of the privileged few. Things like control, power, luxury, even fun. Enter the new Almera. Arguably the most technologically advanced, most spacious, most comfortable, and most enjoyable car to drive in its class (and all from just £10,999). It's revolutionary. It's the new Almera. A technological miracle that minimizes bumps, noise and vibration, gives you the kind of precision and control you'd normally only

get from a performance car. Both the 3 and 5-door versions come with a range of clever computer controlled 16 valve petrol engines that are powerful enough to get you out of trouble yet extraordinarily easy when it comes to fuel consumption. And whilst most cars in this class are a little, let's say barren, in the features department, most Almeras come with driver's airbag, power steering, electric sunroof and a host of other goodies as standard. Is there any wonder it's the car they don't want you to drive? **YOU CAN WITH A NISSAN**



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 0800 40 40 40. *EXCLUDES ROAD FUND LICENCE AND INSURANCE PACKAGES OF SALE. PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. 1.6 16 VALVE 1600CC ENGINE WITH STANDARD SPEC. GOVERNMENT APPROVED FIGURES: URBAN CYCLE 21.0MPG (5.1L/100KM), EXTRA URBAN CYCLE 28.0MPG (5.7L/100KM), COMBINED 24.0MPG (6.3L/100KM).

Some of you would never dream of buying clothing from a catalogue. You're our kind of customer.

At Lands' End, the Direct Merchants from America, we understand your scepticism. Millions of our most devoted customers felt the same way, once...

Like you, a lot of Americans had their doubts. Could we really deliver clothing so well made – at prices so fair – with service as friendly as we promised?

Well, millions and millions of customers later, the answer is "yes." And now that we've been in the UK for over five years, a lot of sceptics on this side of the pond are true believers, too.

One reason is our merchandise. As you can see from the examples here, we feature tasteful clothing in the classic American style.

And we never stop working to make them better.

If it's better for you, it's better for us.

Year after year, we keep going back, adding features and construction details others have taken out.

Just this year, we introduced a new version of our cotton Mesh Shirt – a staple in our catalogue since 1983. But our new version has *eight* major improvements.

We never, ever reduce the quality of a product to make it cheaper.

Where we come from – the good, hardworking farm country of Dodgeville, Wisconsin – folks take pride in doing an honest day's work. And we expect our products to do the same.

Of course, when Lands' End first arrived in the

UK, it took some getting used to. In our advertisements and catalogues, we wrote *catalog*, and *color* and *favorite* – the way we do in the States.

But now, we're well established in the UK. With a thriving home-from-home in Oakham, Rutland. And we're letting our Oakhamites talk their way.

Which is why we now spell catalogue with a *ue*.

Are we finicky? You have no idea.

As Direct Merchants, we always go straight to the manufacturers for our goods.

So we can work closely with them on improving our products.

And then, at the end of the day, we price our products fairly and honestly.

You can call us any time – 24 hours a day – and talk to a friendly, well-trained British Operator. In the comfort and convenience of your home.

We'll deliver a few days later. (It will take just a little longer for something monogrammed or hemmed.)

Nicest of all, you can't go wrong. If you don't like something, return it. It's **GUARANTEED**. (And that's in addition to your statutory rights.)

So, call or write for our free catalogue. Who knows? We may make a believer of you, too.

Our stonewashed Square Riggers are hardworking – and authentic.

These days, most jeans bear only a slight resemblance to the sturdy American jeans of yesterday. They're "distressed," or skintight, or decked out with gimmicks.

Not our Square Riggers™. Which are cut from yarn-dyed, pure cotton denim. In the rugged, 14 3/4 oz. weight that generations of cowboys and farmers swore by.

The only difference is, we stonewash ours. So there's hardly any shrinkage; no stiffness or scratchiness. They're like well-worn favourites right out of the package.

There's a rust-proof zipper and rivets; x-tacked seams on the rear pockets for strength; double-stitched side seams. Even a watch pocket. How many pairs would you like?

Stonewashed Square Riggers

Men's: 33703AA4
100% cotton denim
£25 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Colours: Antique Indigo, Black, Charcoal, Indigo and Tan
Sizes: Waist 30-44 even, plus 31, 33, 35 and 37
Women's: 18317AA2
100% cotton denim
£25 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Colours: Antique Indigo, Black, Indigo and Loden
Sizes: USA even sizing 4-16 (ask Operator for conversion)

To order, you can call us free of charge on: 0800 220 106 with credit card information (MasterCard/Access, Visa, AMEX, Delta, number and expiration date)



Our Interlock Knit Shirt won't go out of date or out of shape.

If we came back in 100 years, it wouldn't surprise us to see our Interlock™ still being happily worn by our customers.

The style is *that* timeless – and *that* comfortable.

We use only strong, fine long-staple cotton, combed to coax out its natural softness. And the interlock knit is rich, cushiony but breathable.

Unlike some interlock polos, ours isn't stretched in the finishing. So, it resists shrinkage later on.

There's jersey tape in the neck, to be smoother against your skin. A neatly finished placket. Side vents to prevent

gapping. A collar that won't curl.

The style is so versatile, you can wear it in all kinds of situations – and it'll fit right in!

Long Sleeve Interlock Knit Shirt

Colours: Classic Navy, Dark Wine, Ivory, Light Loden
Men's: 12334AA2
100% cotton
£19.50 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Sizes: S, M, L, XL
Women's: 25738AA0
100% cotton
£19.50 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Sizes: S, M, L, XL

To order, you can call us free of charge on: 0800 220 106 with credit card information (MasterCard/Access, Visa, AMEX, Delta, number and expiration date)

© 1995 Lands' End Direct Merchants, UK Ltd



For our free catalogue, call
FREEPHONE: 0800 220 106
quoting reference AA, or fax this coupon
on **FREEFAX: 0800 222 106**

Name _____
(Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss)

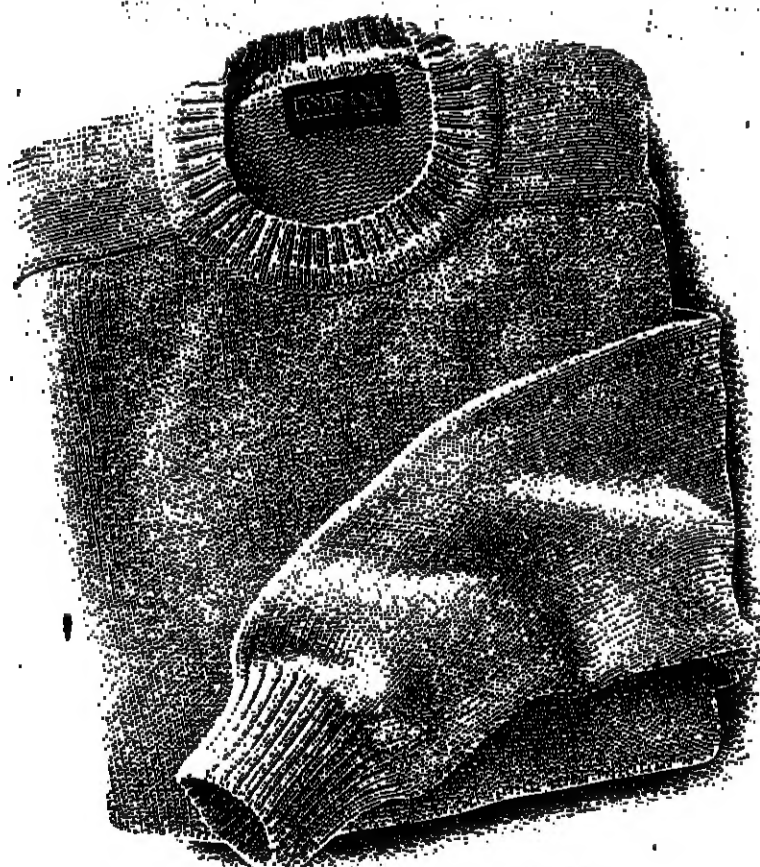
Address _____

Post Code _____

Or mail to: Lands' End Direct Merchants, UK Limited,
FREEPOST, Pillings Road, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6NY.

From time to time we make portions of our mailing list available to carefully selected organizations whose products may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive such mailings, please tick this box. ☐

Lands' End Direct Merchants, UK Limited
Pillings Road, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6NY
Registered in England #2583731
Our guarantee does not affect your statutory rights.
Prices effective until December 31, 1995



Our Drifter Sweater is an American classic. (Know another classic that's only £24.50?)

At Lands' End, we sell a ton of sweaters. But the Drifter™, our "better cotton sweater," is one of the very best sellers.

We have it made from a strong, silky, long-staple cotton from California's San Joaquin Valley. Which is carded, then combed out to produce a luxurious softness. (Some folks omit this extra step.)

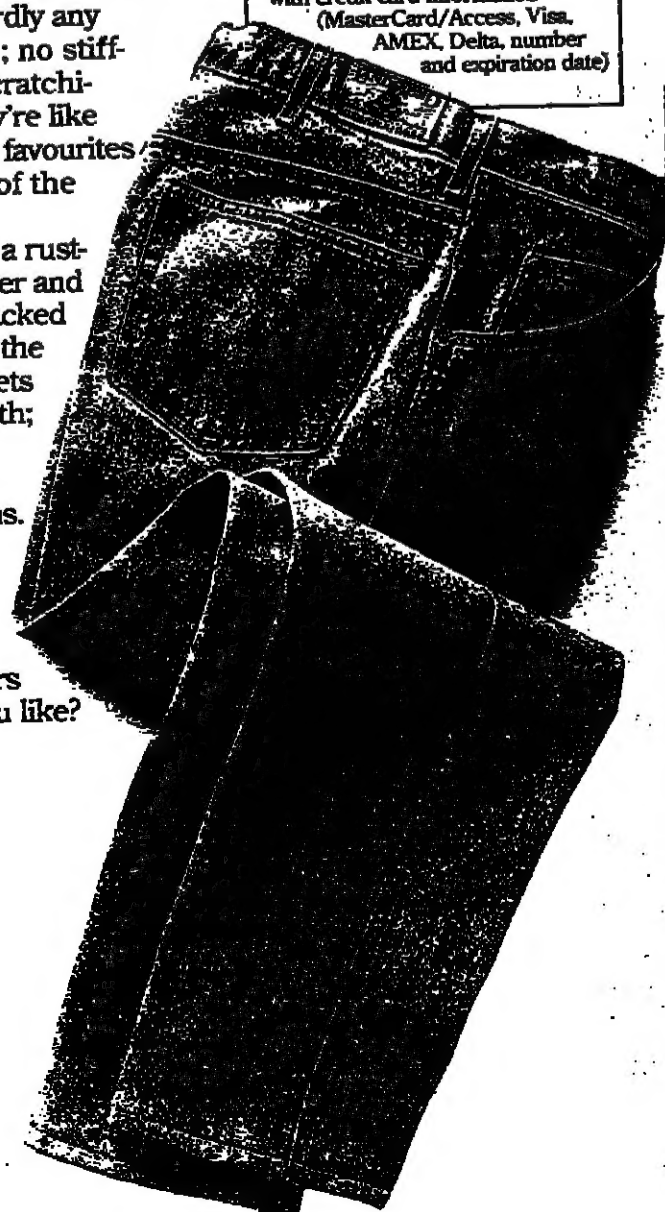
It's yarn-dyed for superb colour. And knitted by the world's best knitters – the British. Each piece – front, back and sleeves – is knitted separately to the body's contours, then linked together for a superb fit. (A sweater that's only cut-and-sewn

to size cannot fit as nicely.) One result is, the Drifter keeps its shape through repeated washings.

Drifter Sweater

Men's: 06674AA4
100% cotton
£24.50 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Colours: Classic Navy, Dark Wine, Evergreen, Fawn, Red
Sizes: M, L, XL
Women's: 06676AA3
100% cotton
£24.50 (plus £2.95 packing and delivery)
Colours: Classic Navy, Dark Wine, Evergreen, Red, Soft Sapphire
Sizes: S, M, L, XL

To order, you can call us free of charge on: 0800 220 106 with credit card information (MasterCard/Access, Visa, AMEX, Delta, number and expiration date)



هاتف الامارات

Consultant
disciplined
for protes
to The Tim

Back turns
that tit
weight
cher

Beak fo
casts de
on mon
of all b

New airline off
flights for pear

Insurance
over £300?
Call us on
0800 600 800

in
gue.

"People have a right to speak to the press but they have got to be accurate," Mr Morris said. "We felt his letter misrepresented the situation at Frimley Park."

"We had a spare intensive care bed at the time but we don't do liver transplants, so the patient had to be transferred elsewhere. We have never had problems with medical staffing."



BY A STAFF REPORTER

A council spokesman said: "The Pickavants misled the council by claiming that the building would be a barn and only admitted their intentions once building work was well under way."

Leading article, page 21

already can attract the whole market with a range of fares catering for everyone," it said.



*PRICE IS FOR PUNTO SS 3 DOOR AND INCLUDES £275 FOR DELIVERY TO DEALER, NUMBER PLATE, V5T AND SIX MONTHS ROAD FUND LICENCE AND IS CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS 14.09.95. SPECIAL ALTERNATIVE SCHEMES EXIST FOR THOSE BUYING THROUGH MOTABILITY CAR SHOWN PUNTO SPORTING LICENSE IN ON THE ROAD FIVE YEAR PLAN IS ONLY AVAILABLE ON NEW METAL SALES. APPLICANTS MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS AND OVER AND THE OFFER IS SUBJECT TO STATUS. FLAT MAXIMUM IS ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH FLAT MOTOR FINANCE AS PARTICIPATING DEALERS. FLAT MOTOR FINANCE IS PART OF THE LOMBARD GROUP. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED WITHIN CIRCUMSTANCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. FLAT MOTOR FINANCE 3 PRINCIPAL BANKS LTD. 14.09.95

European Court ruling

Employers support end of positive sex discrimination

By LIN JENKINS

TALENTED women should be appointed on merit rather than through positive discrimination, employers said yesterday after quota schemes were rendered illegal by the European Court of Justice.

British companies said that the ruling was an endorsement of their approach to encouraging greater equality through promoting capable candidates whatever their sex. Eleven million women in Britain now work, an increase of 1.5 million in a decade — twice the rate of the rise in male employment. Soon more women than men will work but a study by the Equal Opportunities Commission suggests that not until 2028 will they be paid the same as men.

Opportunity 2000, an initiative by Business in the Community which aims to improve women's employment prospects, sets no specific numerical target but hopes that by the turn of the century improvements will have been made in promoting women. Pat Corcoran, director of operations, said: "The confusion comes from the difference between the words quota and target. Many of our members have targets, which are expected

outcomes of their equal opportunity policy rather than a specific figure that they have to meet.

"Companies use targets to measure how effective their policies are in retaining women in the workforce and allowing them to reach their full potential."

Under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, setting quotas and positive discrimination is banned, although firms are allowed to encourage more women to qualify for jobs where their numbers are low. The case taken before the European Court of Human Rights by a German, who challenged a policy of promoting a woman in preference to a man where they had the same qualifications, would have been outlawed under British legislation.

Opportunity 2000 has 287 signatories, including British Airways which has just launched a recruitment drive aimed at making the ratio of male to female pilots more closely resemble their customer profile. Of the 3,000 pilots only 50 are women and Barbara Harmer, 39, a former hairdresser, is the only woman to have flown Concorde. Advertisements to attract trainee pilots have been placed where young women might see them, including in *Cosmopolitan*. The airline said its policy did not amount to positive discrimination and that efforts were being made to attract applications from a broad range of candidates. "Once that has happened we will pick the best people."

Shell UK, another of the Opportunity 2000 employers, acknowledges recruiting more men than women. Efforts to take on more women are hampered by the fact that most science graduates are men.

At Lloyds Bank, Kim Foster, the Opportunity 2000 manager, said it was good business sense to encourage all employees to develop their skills. "No one wants to feel they have been promoted just because of their gender. It is condescending to all talented men and women to imply that."

Barclays Bank runs women-only courses to improve their career skills. "We do not operate positive discrimination, but these courses enable women to compete on a level playing field," Jane Vidler, a spokeswoman, said.

Janet Daley, page 20

Michael Portillo being interviewed in his office yesterday. He told *The Times* that he was not anti-Europe, just anti-federalist.

Portillo declares his globalist beliefs

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO robustly defended his views on Europe yesterday and appeared unmoved by reports that he was to be asked to restrain his language in any future speech about European defence.

A group of pro-Europe Tory MPs met Malcolm Rifkind on Tuesday evening and had the impression that the Foreign Secretary would try to restrain

Mr Portillo from deploying the type of language he used in his controversial speech at the Conservative conference in Blackpool last week.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Portillo said he had had no indication that Mr Rifkind, his predecessor at the Ministry of Defence, was intending to restrict his statements on Europe.

The Defence Secretary insisted that he was not anti-Europe, just anti-federalist. "I think the speech appealed to a

very large number of people and I resent the suggestion that I had erected an Aunt Sally. There is a serious debate about European integration and I wanted to make the anti-federalist case robustly.

"I think people express themselves differently in different places. My job at the party conference is to inspire the Conservatives and to attract new voters to the Conservative Party and this speech will have had both effects."

Since the party speech, Mr Portillo has spent some time reassuring people in the Defence Ministry and outside, that his perceived anti-Europe position — strongly criticised by Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission — did not in any sense, other than in his speech's choice of words, clash with agreed government policy.

He said: "What I am is an anti-federalist, I'm not an anti-European, still less am I a xenophobe. I'm from a multi-ethnic European background. I'm able to understand a number of European languages and speak one or two of them myself. I believe in co-operation with other nations and I see myself as a globalist."

"In other words I believe that our development in the European Union, for instance on free trade, should be seen only as a stepping stone to wider arrangements for free trade in the world, because if free trade is good for Europe, it must be good for wider groups of nations as well. Malcolm Rifkind and I are at one there. So all that puts me rather a long way from the pigeon-hole description of being anti-European."

He gave his full support to the government approach in developing a strong European pillar in Nato through the Western European Union but he could not envisage any situation where a conflict involving the integrity of an alliance member would not involve the Americans.

"I believe that European security will, for as long as anyone can foresee, rest on an Atlantic alliance."

While by instinct an Atlanticist, he added: "It's worth remembering that the Atlantic Alliance, Nato, contains two North American countries and 14 European countries and that that ratio is going to continue moving towards a European bias (when Nato takes in new members from eastern Europe)."

"To talk about an Atlantic Alliance is not to say something that minimises the European contribution, but it is to say that it is the integration of American and European nations in the security of Europe that is important... indeed fundamental."

Rented US fighter jets may steal Tornado role

A SCHEME to lease American F16 aircraft instead of upgrading RAF Tornado F3 air defence planes is being seriously considered, Michael Portillo confirmed yesterday (*Michael Evans writes*). He denied that the plan would call into question Britain's participation in the four-nation Eurofighter programme.

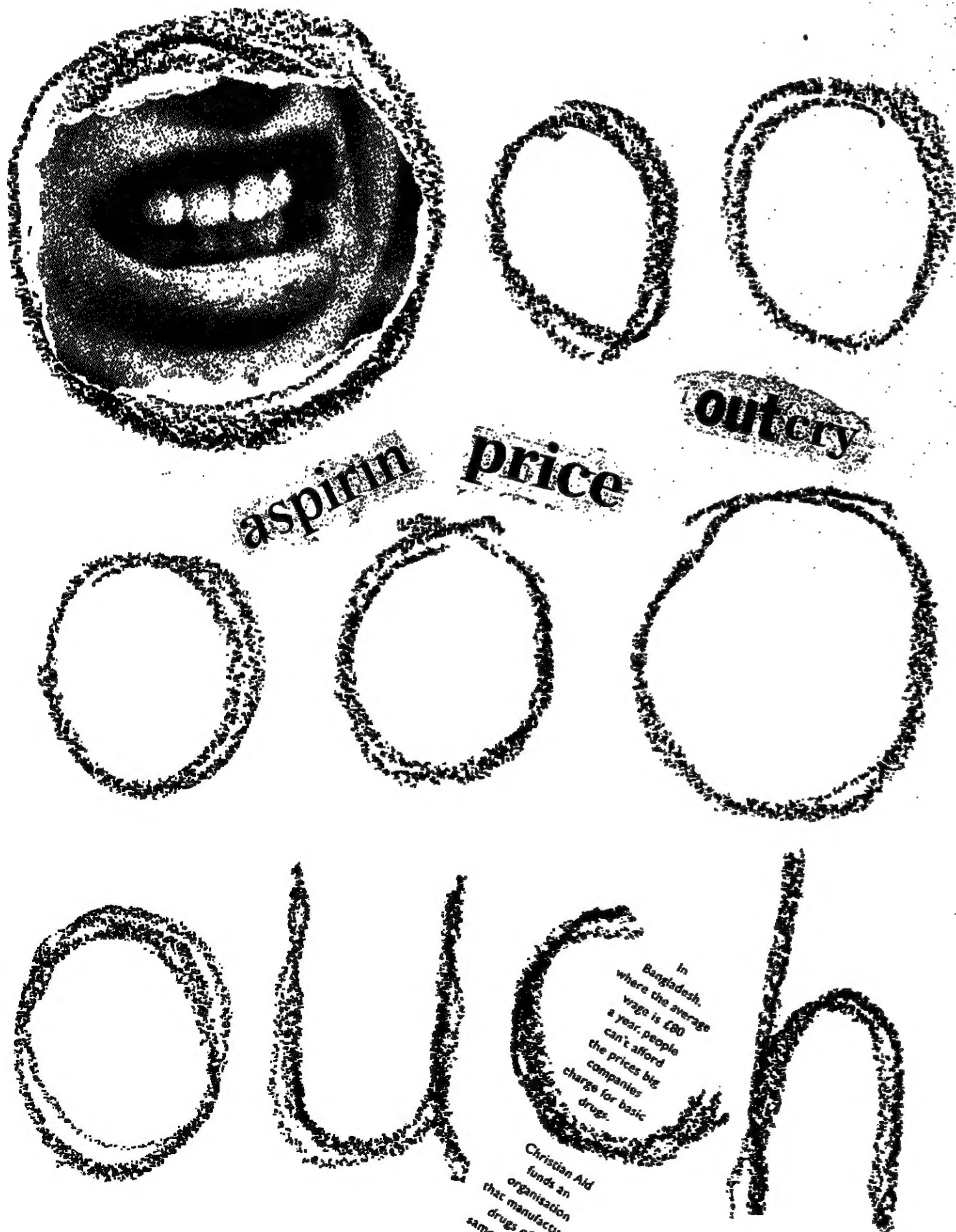
The Defence Secretary said he was "100 per cent" behind Eurofighter, although he admitted that while he was Chief Secretary to the Treasury he had been sceptical about the programme.

"The questions that were raised in my mind about Eurofighter have been resolved," Mr Portillo said. "I now believe it to be a highly capable and very competitive aircraft." Leasing — "not buying" — F16s was a short-term option to fill the gap until Eurofighter came into service in 2002.

Mr Portillo said that he had not made up his mind whether to lease F16s or upgrade the Tornado, unofficially estimated to cost about £15 million. "The debate simply is that the Tornado was not designed as a high-performance fighter. But can you, by changing its

weaponry and possibly its systems, adapt it to the roles that we now foresee for our fighter aircraft, or would you do better to lease admittedly an old aircraft, but one that is designed as a fighter?"

"Tornado was mainly conceived of as intercepting incoming bombing aircraft from the Soviet Union. The new envisaged role is likely to be accompanying ground-attack aircraft in some theatre of operation, probably distant from the UK," he said.

SAS message, page 1
Portillo book, page 39

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

FEEL
THINK
ACT

Feel better. Prices charged by the big drug companies trading in the third world are being challenged. Think of the misery you could relieve by helping us fund more projects to provide affordable healthcare.

Act now and we'll show you how to get involved.

Name _____
Address _____
Post Code _____

To: Christian Aid, Freepost, London SE1 7YY or call 0891 33 34 35
(Calls at 30p per minute plus 10p and 4p at all other times.) Registered Charity No 238031

**DON'T MISS OUT
ON A TAX-FREE
WAY TO PEP UP
YOUR SAVINGS.**

PHONE
0800 100 888

Over 26,000 investors have opened our Growth PEP since its launch in March. If you'd like to find out why, simply call us free at a time convenient to you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363E. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.

ABBEY NATIONAL DIRECT



For your security and to make us as transparent as possible to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. Unit trust products are provided by Abbey National Unit Trust Managers Limited. The value of investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise. It is not guaranteed and, therefore, you may not get back the full amount you invest. PEPs are subject to Inland Revenue rules and regulations which may change from time to time. Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Babine Street, London NW1 6GL, United Kingdom. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

25 أكتوبر 1995

1995/10/19



THE ROVER 620ti KEEPS 37 LAND SPEED RECORDS UNDER ITS BONNET. (BUT KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT.)

"A rather reserved rocket," was how Dr Jekyll described the Rover 620ti in a Top Gear road test.

Two paragraphs later, he encountered the turbo-charged T16 engine that scooped up a hatful of records during a special 24 hour marathon test.

At which point a certain Mr Hyde took over.

"This Rover is a beast. Honestly."

Tut tut Mr Hyde. "It's a sleek but discrete saloon for those who want to hurry but don't need to shout."

Oh really Doc? "It's got traction control and stonking great 16 inch alloys with Pirelli P-Zero tyres..."

To the joy, no doubt, of psychologists everywhere, the same revealing contradictions appear whenever the 620ti is reviewed.

It possesses an unerring ability to separate the man from the boy.

(For the man, we also include our security coded RDS radio/cassette, vehicle immobiliser and perimetric security system.

Two years' free servicing and warranty*
For a free test drive or a brochure
phone now on
0345 186 186

For the boy, take a glance at our Silverstone sports leather seats.)

As final proof, we'll conclude with two more road testers' gems from the 620ti's press-cuttings file.

"Subtlety is such an underrated virtue." The good Doctor again.

"It's a scorcher." Guess who?



ABOVE ALL, IT'S A ROVER

Howard's survival depends on silence of his colleagues

Michael Howard is in serious political trouble because he has made an enemy of the person who is in a position to embarrass him most. But his survival as Home Secretary depends not on the substance of the allegations by Derek Lewis, nor on constitutional questions of ministerial responsibility, but on whether he retains the support of Cabinet and backbench colleagues. So far, he does.

Whether ministers stay or resign depends on the political mood of the time. Of course, further damaging charges, or rather the build-up of charges,

can tip the balance against a minister. But it does not really matter how forceful and eloquent Jack Straw is in deploying Labour's case in this afternoon's debate unless he can prove that Mr Howard has deliberately misled the Commons and can therefore shake the confidence of Tory MPs in the Home Secretary. A total of 22 Cabinet ministers have resigned since 1945. Three fifth quit because of disagreements of principle and over policy, ranging from Aneurin Bevan and Harold Wilson in 1951 to John Redwood four months ago. A further four have gone because of personal scandals.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

leaving five who have resigned because of their conduct in office. These are Hugh Dalton over a Budget leak in 1947, Lord Carrington and Humphrey Atkins over the Falklands in 1982, Leon Brittan over the Westland affair in 1986 and Nicholas Ridley in 1990, though the latter was because of his remarks about Germany in a *Spectator* interview rather than because of what he did as Trade and Industry Secretary. There was often an interval

between the original incident and resignation. The decisive factor was the hostility of fellow MPs. Some ministers have resisted going at first but have ultimately accepted the verdict of their colleagues. This applied even when Sir Thomas Dugdale resigned as Minister of Agriculture over the action of his officials in the Crichel Down compensation case. It is a popular myth that Sir Thomas's resignation was a pure and rarely repeated example of a minister taking responsibility for the conduct of his civil servants even without knowing at the time what they had done. Private

papers published after Sir Thomas's death show that he resigned as a direct result of Tory backbench criticism rather than as a matter of principle. This is shown by the many cases where senior ministers have remained despite furious rows over the actions of their department. This has applied particularly over prisons and security matters — for instance, Roy Jenkins in 1966 after the George Blake escape, William Whitelaw in 1982 after an intruder broke into the Queen's bedroom, Kenneth Baker in 1991-92 after an escape from Brixton prison, and a succession of Northern Ireland Secretaries.

These ministers have had the sympathy of their backbenchers who have accepted their explanation and have argued that any errors need to be put in the context of their broader record. Prime Ministers are normally reluctant to lose ministers because of the potential damage to the Government. But if the controversy continues, a Prime Minister may risk of being hurt more by the minister staying than going. Thus the departures of Lord Carrington and Mr Atkins were necessary to satisfy Tory anger over the Argentine invasion of the Falklands and to safeguard Margaret Thatcher's

position. Similarly, Leon Brittan's departure in January 1986 was to protect Mrs Thatcher. The political consequence, if not recovery, of the Major Government would be severely undermined if Mr Howard had to resign. Apart from a raised eyebrow from Sir Peter Lloyd, the former Prisons Minister, over the sacking of Mr Lewis, even publicly-seeking Tony MPs have been quiet. Most do, after all, back his tough line on law and order. Their silence is Mr Howard's strongest support at present.

PETER RIDDELL

Major's allies back think-tank's attack on nanny State and dependency culture

New forum plans Thatcherite cure for social problems

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN MAJOR has given his private blessing to a new Tory think-tank dedicated to carving out a revolutionary new social policy agenda for the rest of the century.

Viscount Cranborne, leader of the House of Lords and a key ally of the Prime Minister, has agreed to be patron of Politeia, a new "forum for economic and social thinking" to be launched officially next month. The Greek name reflects its mission of redrawing the boundary between the individual and the State.

Viscount Cranborne, a scion of the Cecil family, the country's oldest and most distinguished political dynasty, played a central role in Mr Major's re-election campaign in the summer and has since been instrumental in healing the rift with a bruised Tory Right.

Lord Parkinson, a former Tory party chairman, is to be the forum's treasurer, which is another sign that it is being set up with the encouragement of the Conservative Establishment.

The forum's aim will be to sharpen the divide with Tony

Blair, the Labour leader, over welfare reform, education, health, crime, public spending and taxation and measures to tackle unemployment. It will champion individual and family-based solutions in contrast to Mr Blair's "statist" approach to such problems.

It will campaign for a cut in state spending from its present 44 per cent of national output to about 30 per cent and press the case for incentives for the better-off to become less reliant on the State. The forum will also seek to revitalise the internal Tory debate over policies for the next manifesto and a fifth term of Conservative Government.

Dr Sheila Lawlor, a former Cambridge don and for the past seven years deputy director of the Centre for Policy Studies, will be Politeia's new director of studies.

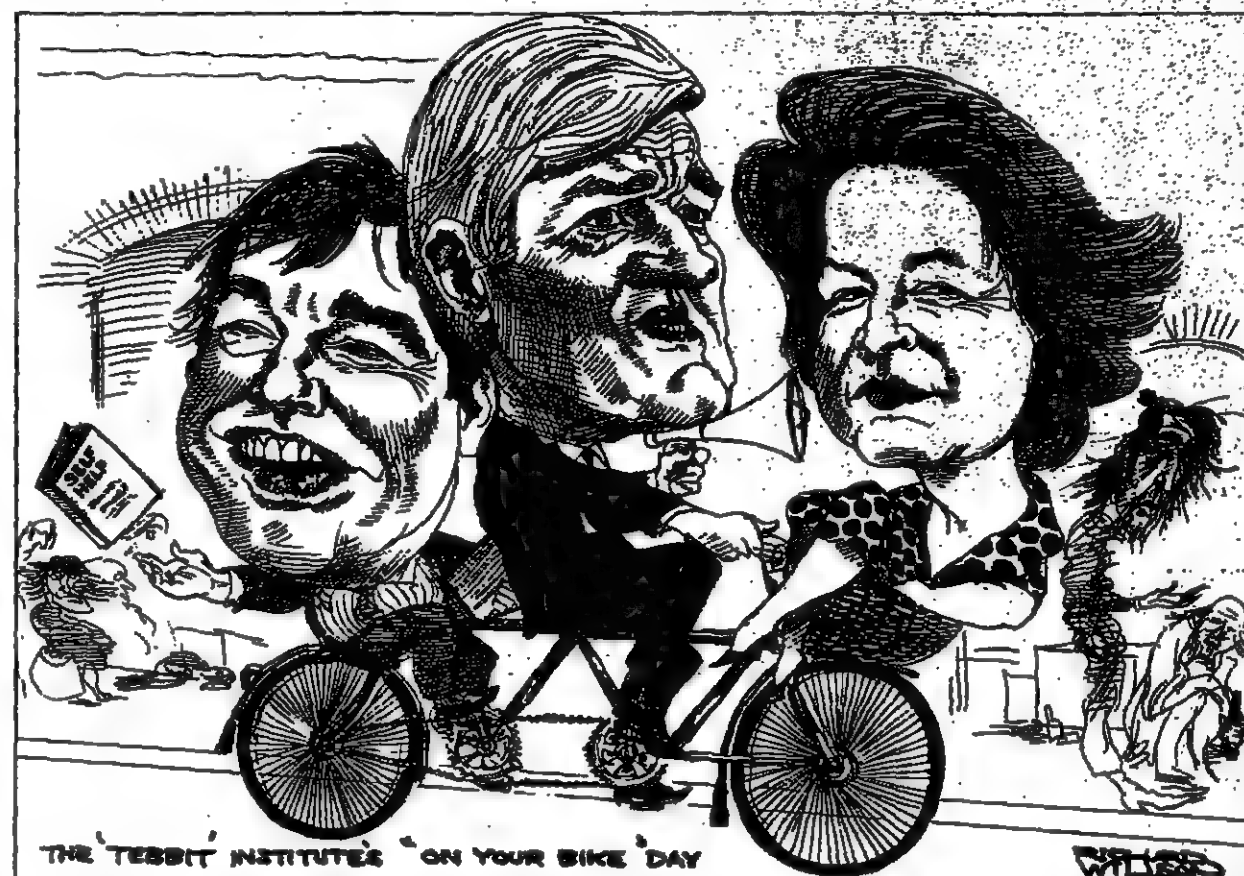
Dr Lawlor is understood to be close to Norman Blackwell, the director of Mr Major's Downing Street policy unit. Her decision to leave the CPS, the most influential of the Tory think-tanks in the Thatcher era, symbolises a realisation among key elements on the

Tory Right that the time has come to forge a radical new agenda around the Prime Minister.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, Dr Lawlor said that the forum would seek to apply free-market Thatcherite ideas, which had worked so well in the economic sphere, to the big social problems of the 1990s. "The great agenda of nowadays is how far can we have a framework that does not penalise enterprise and thrift. The great danger of targeting is that we are penalising those who have saved."

She believed that the forum's policy agenda is in tune with the Prime Minister's thinking. "He does not want dependency and he's very keen to allow people to get on with their lives. This will be an ideal forum without any of the baggage of the past."

"One of the great problems of the 1980s and the early 1990s was one did not go as far as the social agenda. Every party recognises that there are social problems in our country — crime, broken families, poor education, a growing depen-



THE TESSIT INSTITUTE'S "ON YOUR BIKE" DAY

dependency culture and, most of all, unemployment.

"If you can solve unemployment, a lot of other problems will solve themselves — the way in which people are cut off from society, the way in which families have difficulty in bringing up their children. All kinds of things are related to not being employed."

"On the Left, they say all this is down to economic liberalism: the Thatcher revolu-

tion failed, everybody was out for themselves and communities disintegrated."

"The Left says that what we have to do is recreate government and we will have a society which pulls together. But the real problem of the 1980s and the early 1990s was that we left in place huge areas in which the State still ran people's lives, in education, housing and employment."

"All kinds of restrictions

and regulations remained from schooling to pensions ... But intervention did not succeed in the economy and it is time to change that statist approach to the daily lives of people — to look at how best to help people to help themselves and what is the best basis for high employment."

"We are taxing people. We are spending their money. We are choosing their schools. We are giving them education

which, we all agree, is not good enough, forcing them to use certain state services and taxing them for the privilege. Then, at the end of the day, we are giving them income support."

"We are continuing to create dependency. We are putting more and more people into the bracket where they cannot spend their own money because the State is spending it for them."

Lottery 'should aid libraries'

A LABOUR government would allow public libraries access to lottery funds, Chris Smith, the party's spokesman on the arts, promised yesterday (John Young writes).

At present only libraries categorised as an archive or those that occupy an historic building qualify for lottery

money. Mr Smith said Labour wanted to change the rules to allow lottery money to be used for new library buildings but he did not want to see lottery money used for basic core funding of the public library service.

Mr Smith was speaking at a conference in London

organised by the Library Association and timed to coincide with a lobby of Parliament in protest at cuts in library funding. The association said it made no sense for libraries to be denied lottery money when it could be used to build or refurbish sports and arts centres.

Tory is freed to seek safer seat

By James Landale, Political Reporter

THE Tory MP Nick Hawkins, who has been searching for seat safer than his marginal Blackpool South, has now been abandoned by the constituency association there.

Tory chiefs voted almost unanimously on Tuesday night to begin the process of selecting a new prospective parliamentary candidate. The move came on the same day that Mr Hawkins joined the Government payroll vote as parliamentary private secretary to the Defence Ministers, Nicholas Soames and James Arbuthnot.

Although Mr Hawkins has applied to several other seats, including Southend West, Stone and Reading West, he has so far been unsuccessful. Although local party bosses claim the move is a result of minor changes to the constituency boundaries and is entirely amicable, some members are known to be dismayed by what they see as Mr Hawkins's desertion of his constituents, whom he has represented since 1992. His majority of 1,667 will almost certainly be overturned by Labour at the next election.

Labour was quick to capitalise on the latest of what

they describe as the "chicken run" of Tories from marginal to safe seats. Frank Dobson, Shadow Environment Secretary, said that Mr Hawkins was now "a chicken with nowhere to roost".

Mr Hawkins said: "I expect my own future to become clearer over the next few months. I have been enormously grateful for the consistent and continuing support of my constituency chairman, deputy chairman and Blackpool South Conservative Association."

John Bostock, the party agent for Blackpool South, said there was no ill-feeling and Mr Hawkins would now be able to look for a new constituency without feeling beholden to his present seat. "We have finally released him from his ties to us."

Colin Hanson, the party chairman, said that until Mr Hawkins found a new seat, the constituency party would not have known whether a new candidate was needed or not. "Nick is an extremely conscientious and good MP. We could do with keeping him. It has been entirely amicable on both sides, although I am very sad that it has happened."

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons, backbenchers debated with Government policy towards Latin America. At 2.30pm, questions to Spanish ministers followed by Opposition debate on rail privatisation. In the Lords, debate on Gas Bill, report stage, and the Social Security (Income Support and Claims and Personal Allowance) Regulations.

TODAY in the Commons, questions to Home Office ministers and the Prime Minister. Debates on the Police Service and the 25th anniversary of the Grenada crisis and Disabled Persons Act. In the Lords, debate on Town and Country Planning (Cost of Local Bill and the Dogs (Proving of Land) Bill.

CASUAL CORDS

£14.99 + p&p

OR SAVE £5.00
2 PAIRS £24.95 + p&p

BELT LOOPS
COTTON POCKETS
BACK POCKET
COTTON CORDUROY
COMFORTABLE CUT
TO SIZE 46-54 WAIST

These hard wearing, full fit, washable Casual Cord trousers, with 2 side pockets, button down back pocket and ample belt loops are perfect everyday wear. They fit smartly and warmer than denim they're especially good for gardening, D.I.Y., leisure and casual relaxation. You'll find them they're quite remarkable for the price, so don't delay take advantage of our offer today!

Colours: Green, Fawn, Brown.
Sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46.
Material: cotton corduroy.
Item Ref: 10859 Casual Cords.

PHONE NOW ON 01768 899111

OR FAX 01768 899222 TO PLACE CREDIT CARD ORDER

SEND TO DEPT TOWN & COUNTRY MANNER LTD, PENNETH ESTATE, PENNETH, CUMBRIA CA11 9EQ

We hope to dispatch by return, otherwise you should hear from us within 10 days. If not please contact us. REFUND OR REPLACEMENT IF NOT DELIVERED.

Qty	Size	Colour	Alt. Colour	
Name: _____				ppp to £20 £2.95
Address: _____				ppp to £25 £3.95
Post Code: _____				Over £25 FREE
Signed: _____				
I enclose my cheque/£10 note or charge my Account/Visa Card No. _____				
In Town & Country Manner Ltd, Dept. 222				
If you are not interested in receiving information on approved services and products from third parties please tick _____				

Car Insurance
over £300?
Call Admiral Ins on
0800 600 800

VODAFONE Centre

For when you get REALLY STUCK...

Line Rental from only **£3.45** per week

VODAFONE NOKIA

ONLY £9.95 INC. VAT. **FREE** CONNECTION TO VODAFONE LOWCALL

VODAFONE LowCALL A small price to pay for peace of mind

VODAFONE Centre

PLUS 50% OFF
A CIGAR LIGHTER CHARGER LEAD

when you buy a Vodafone Nokia from a Vodafone Centre in October

Normal price £29.99 **NOW £14.95**

when you present this coupon at the time of purchase. Accessory offer subject to availability at Vodafone Centre. Offer ends 31st October

BRANCHES NATIONWIDE
FOR YOUR NEAREST VODAFONE CENTRE CALL

0500 33 55 77

OFFER ENDS 31ST OCTOBER 1995

This offer is subject to status, availability and a valid and active agreement connected to the Vodafone LowCall tariff with a £15 monthly line rental charge inc. VAT. Offers end 31.10.95. Vouchers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or voucher. Please bring two proofs of identity with you to take out the service agreement.

Claes 'ne miracle' keep to Nato jo

Jeweller followed Silver Service

Claes 'needs miracle' to keep top Nato job

BY CHARLES BREMNER, BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT

WILLY CLAES, who has led Nato for the past year, will make a final attempt to keep his job as Secretary General today when he goes before the Belgian parliament to plead his innocence on charges of corruption.

The Belgian political world believes that it would take a near-miracle for the 50-year-old, sitting in camera, to reverse the decision of an all-party commission, which recommended on Saturday that the 56-year-old former minister should be indicted for his alleged involvement in a party bribery affair in the late 1980s.

A decision to lift Mr Claes's immunity and send him before the high court is expected to trigger his resignation from Nato and accelerate a search for his successor at the head of the Western alliance.

Mr Claes gave a brief and "realistic" assessment of his position when he met Nato ambassadors for lunch on Tuesday, diplomats said. He told them that he still hoped to avoid indictment but indicated that a decision against him would end his long fight to cling to the office that he assumed on October 17, 1994, after the death of Germany's Manfred Wörner.

The pressure is high for a swift transition to avoid drift just as Nato is about to embark on a large-scale operation to police the Bosnian peace and is redesigning itself to handle the new balance of power in Eastern Europe. The most cited figure as Mr Claes's successor remains Uffe Ellerman-Jensen, the former Danish Foreign Minister and leader of the opposition Liberal Party.

Other favoured names are Rudi Lubbers, the former Dutch Prime Minister, Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister, and Hans van den Broek, a former Dutch Foreign Minister.

The commission confirmed its approach in a report yesterday. The prosecutor had argued that there were "sufficient indications" to justify parliament's decision to indict Mr Claes "for corruption as a perpetrator, co-perpetrator or accomplice and for forgery and fraud", the commission report said.

Mr Claes must convince at least 76 MPs of his innocence. "I hope that I can count on my political comrades," he said. The hearing is likely to last until early tomorrow.

Leading article, page 21



One of Eldin Esovic's relatives kisses him before his departure from Bosnia yesterday

Sarajevo children leave for Britain

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MEMBERS of his family bade an emotional farewell to 13-year-old Eldin Esovic yesterday as the Bosnian boy left hospital in Sarajevo to fly to Oxford for treatment.

With him on the flight was Jadranka Zelenovic, a 15-year-old girl. Eldin will be treated at the Radcliffe Infirmary for the terrible injuries he suffered in a grenade explosion; Jadranka will be admitted to the Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow for treatment of intestinal problems.

The boy lost his sight and most of his arms when a grenade with which he was playing exploded. He is unaware of the extent of the damage to his eyes: before leaving Sarajevo he was urging doctors to remove the imaginary bandages he believed would prevent him looking out of the aircraft as he flew to Britain.

Since he was injured he has been using the stumps of his arms to try to remove the non-existent bandages. "He has hopes of seeing the world one day," Vesna Cengic, his doctor, has been quoted as saying, "but one day he has to know the truth." Since the blast, Eldin's father, Esad, whose wife was killed two years ago, has kept a constant vigil at the boy's bedside in the Sarajevo State Hospital.

Belgrade and Sarajevo act to restore ties

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SERBIA and Bosnia agreed to establish liaison offices in their capitals yesterday, paving the way for the resumption of diplomatic ties severed by Belgrade three years ago.

The Clinton Administration, preparing the ground for negotiations in America between the warring parties later this month, announced that the talks would be held in the less than personal surroundings of Wright-Patterson air force base at Dayton, Ohio, rather than the intimate setting of Camp David.

Officials continued to remain optimistic of a successful outcome, but Richard Holbrooke, the American special envoy to the region, played down the agreement to open offices between Sarajevo and Belgrade when he visited the Bosnian capital. "This is a small step on a long and difficult road," Mr Holbrooke said after flying into Sarajevo with Carl Bildt of the European Union and Igor Ivanov of Russia.

The two countries broke off diplomatic communication when Bosnia seceded from rump Yugoslavia in 1992, sparking the conflict which, despite a countrywide ceasefire last week, continued to flare in northwestern Bosnia yesterday.

Mr Holbrooke, who was shuttling between the two capitals in advance of Ameri-

can peace talks scheduled for October 31, will co-chair the negotiations at Dayton with Mr Bildt.

When President Carter hosted the Camp David talks on the Middle East he established an atmosphere of great intimacy between Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Anwar Sadat, the Egyptian President. President Clinton, however, is leaving the day-to-day negotiations to Mr Holbrooke and Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, who will open the talks and shuttle back and forth when necessary. The White House is only too aware that negotiations could fail and damage Mr Clinton if they were to be held in more "presidential" surroundings.

The base, whose high fences will fend off media interest, has three separate but identical quarters which will house the presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia when they arrive in America for the proximity talks.

□ Banja Luka: Two French pilots shot down during a Nato bombing mission have been kidnapped from hospital either by a gang seeking ransom or by Bosnian Muslims. Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said in Belgrade, Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, said he had no fresh news about the pilots. (AFP)

The biggest choice of the best brands. Only at PC World.

INTEREST FREE OPTION on all desktop and portable PCs.

THE BIGGEST CHOICE

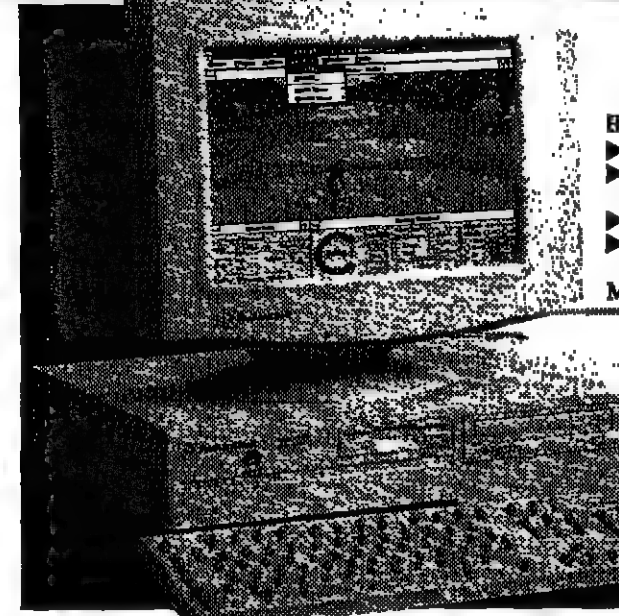
At PC World we stock the biggest range of top brand computers and computer peripherals, to give you the best choice in the country.

EXPERT ADVICE

Whether you're a technical wizard or a complete beginner our specially trained staff can help you choose the computer, or computer equipment that suits you best.

THE BEST VALUE

As Britain's biggest computer superstore our prices are always low and our back up service is unique. With our Technical Centres, Business Centres, on site service and after-sales telephone support, we're second to none.



SAVE OVER £110 INKJET PRINTER PLUS MULTIMEDIA PC

HEWLETT PACKARD PRINTER
 ▶ 600 x 600 dpi resolution
 ▶ 600 x 300 dpi colour resolution
 ▶ 4 page per minute
 ▶ Resolution enhancement technology.
 Model: Deskjet 660

PACKARD BELL PC
 ▶ Pentium P60 processor
 ▶ 8Mb RAM, 528Mb hard disk
 ▶ 1 Mb video memory, PCI local bus, Quad speed CD-ROM drive, stereo soundcard & speakers.
 ▶ Software: Windows 95, Money, Works, Corel Draw & Publisher - plus 30 other software titles.
 Model: Multimedia 902S

Total separate selling price £1563.99

£1449 EX VAT

OVER 75 PCs FROM ONLY £539

PACKARD BELL NEW

486DX4 75MHz processor, 8Mb RAM, 400Mb hard disk, 14" SVGA monitor, Dual speed CD-ROM drive, stereo soundcard and speakers, Windows 95, Model: 901S Multimedia
£1029 EX VAT

APRICOT SAVE £150

486DX2 66MHz processor, 8Mb RAM, 540Mb hard disk, Quad speed CD-ROM, stereo soundcard & speakers, Was £1149, Model: XEN PCM X01S DX2-66 Multimedia
£999 EX VAT

FUJITSU ICL NEW

486DX4 100MHz processor, 8Mb RAM, 540Mb hard disk, Quad speed CD-ROM drive, stereo soundcard & speakers, 14" monitor, Windows 95 and MS Works, Model: Indiana C100S Multimedia
£1199 EX VAT

PACKARD BELL NEW

Pentium P75 processor, 8Mb RAM, 528Mb hard disk, 14" monitor, Quad speed CD-ROM drive, Windows 95, Model: 965D Multimedia
£1349 EX VAT

NEC SAVE £200

486SX 33MHz processor, 4Mb RAM, 210Mb hard disk, 9.5" dual scan colour display, Was £999, Model: SX3D Colour
£799 EX VAT

SAVE UP TO £70 ON PRINTERS

HEWLETT PACKARD SAVE £30

Up to 600 DPI resolution, 4 ppm output, optional colour kit allows 600 x 300 DPI colour printing. HP's PrintSmart for Windows allows you to experience simple complete Windows printing. Compatible with Win 95, Quickdraw, 0.5Mb built in RAM, Was £229, Model: DJ 600
£199 EX VAT

HEWLETT PACKARD SAVE £20

600 x 600 DPI inkjet printer, 300 x 300 DPI colour printing, 4 ppm print speed, resolution enhancement technology, HP colour smart technology, 3 year warranty, Was £299, Model: DJ 650
£279 EX VAT

OVER 1000 PERIPHERALS

OVERDRIVES FROM

Intel processors:
 ▶ DX2 50 & 66MHz
 ▶ DX4 75 & 100MHz
 ▶ Pentium 60 & 66MHz
£89 EX VAT

Hard disks:
 ▶ 540Mb & Free Mouse
 ▶ 850Mb & Free Win 95 book
 ▶ 1.2Gb & Free Win 95 book, 1.5Gb
£149 EX VAT

HEWLETT PACKARD SAVE £70

600 x 600 DPI inkjet printer, 300 DPI colour printing, 6 ppm output/2 ppm colour, Hps colour resolution enhancement technology, 1Mb built in RAM, Was £469, Model: DJ 850
£399 EX VAT

CANON SAVE £20

360 DPI inkjet printer, 248 CPS draft, 124 CPS high quality, Epson L24 & IBM compatible, 50 page auto sheet feeder, Was £199, Model: BJ 200
£179 EX VAT

CANON SAVE £30

720 x 560 DPI resolution (black only), 360 DPI resolution in full colour, Built in smoothing technology, up to 5 ppm output, 20 scalable TrueType fonts, 100 sheet paper feeder, Was £279, Model: BJC 400
£249 EX VAT

OVER 1200 SOFTWARE TITLES

INTUIT QUICKEN V4 NEW

New enhanced CD-ROM version of the world's best selling financial software.
£25.50 EX VAT

MICROSOFT FREE £50 VOUCHERS

Windows 95 upgrade, 32 bit multitasking operating system, EXCLUSIVE £50 OFF SOFTWARE VOUCHERS*
£59 EX VAT

Jewellers followed by Silver Service

Where better to successfully mix business with pleasure than the International Convention Centre? Offering every conceivable facility for meetings and conferences, it's also central to a whole spectrum of diversions and delights.

Opportunities for eating out are endless, with the city catering for every culinary taste - from Italian to Thai, Vegetarian to Vietnamese.

For a quick bite, or more formal affair, you'll find the choice quite mouth-watering. Indeed, the Association of Jewellers at a recent conference may well have enjoyed a banquet at ICC itself. Who more likely to appreciate such a perfect setting?



International Convention Centre, Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2EA
 Telephone: 0121 200 2000 Fax: 0121 643 0358

CALL FOR YOUR NEAREST PC WORLD SUPERSTORE.
0990 464 464

6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION OR 48 MONTHLY REPAYMENTS

APR 27.8%

PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

*AVAILABLE BY VOUCHER REDEMPTION. ASK IN STORE FOR DETAILS. ALL PRICES SHOWN EXCLUDING VAT. VAT WILL BE CHARGED AT 17.5%. WINDOWS 95 UPGRADE USUALLY £68 EX VAT.

US fears march of fundamentalist Muslim creed across North Africa

By MARK HUBAND
NORTH AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

WESTERN policymakers are preparing for Algeria's armed insurgency to descend into outright civil war in the light of the military-backed Government's failure to hold talks with Islamic militants. That intensifies worries that other states in the region may be unable to contain Islamic militancy.

The United States and France view the Algerian crisis as a threat to the entire Mediterranean region and one over which their influence is extremely limited. "Beyond the far-reaching consequences for Algeria itself, gains by the most

radical Islamists could embolden extremists in neighbouring North African states such as Tunisia or Morocco, key American allies in the region," David Welch, US principal deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, told the congressional African affairs subcommittee last week.

Vital strategic issues are being raised in Washington. Bruce Reidel, deputy assistant secretary for Defence, told the same committee: "The Department of Defence has serious concerns about the turmoil in Algeria. A power vacuum in Algeria or a hostile government coming to power [there] carries very dangerous ramifications for

which the US must be prepared," Mr Reidel identified the need to keep free the Mediterranean sea-lanes between the Atlantic, the Gulf and the Indian Ocean as the key defence-related concern. "If the Algeria situation deteriorates to full-scale civil war or Algeria becomes a hostile Islamic revolutionary state, these forces could rapidly complicate the US military operations worldwide," he said.

Increasing tensions within Algeria's military-backed Government between those determined to destroy the hardliners and conciliators seeking negotiations have isolated foreign governments from the centre of power. In the mean-

time, foreign influence over the armed fundamentalists inside the country is non-existent. America has avoided the trap of being portrayed as the Islamists' enemy by promoting dialogue between the Muslim groups and the Government, but to no avail.

France, after initially softening the anti-fundamentalist line it adopted when the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) appeared poised to win the 1992 election, has re-established its public ties with President Zeroual, who is due to meet President Chirac at the UN next week. There is agreement in the West that Algeria's confrontational strategy is not the

solution to the crisis, but France is unable to mediate because it is too deeply entrenched with Algeria's French-speaking middle class to which it bespeaks power on Algerian independence in 1962 after 130 years of French colonial rule. That middle class is the hardliners' main enemy.

President Chirac has said he will press Mr Zeroual to reopen dialogue with all parties and hinted that continuation of French aid to Algeria, worth £700 million a year, would depend on the creation of a democratic system. However, talks with the hardliners collapsed this year and led to the FIS and other political parties, which won 80 per

cent of the vote in the 1992 election, boycotting the presidential election planned for November 16.

Western concerns over Morocco and Tunisia have centred on the ability of those countries' governments to undermine support for the extremists by improving living standards and thus denying them their constituency among the poor.

While a direct military spillover from Algeria is unlikely, unless refugees flood into Morocco and then push towards Southern Europe, the war is regarded in the West as a potential morale booster for fundamentalists in the region. In Tunisia, Islamic leaders were given long prison sentences in the

early 1990s. In Morocco, Yassine Abdessalam, the fundamentalist leader, is under house arrest and his followers have been jailed. But in neither country has Islamist sentiment been obliterated.

Algeria's presidential election, which Mr Zeroual is expected to win, is expected to intensify what was described yesterday by one diplomat in Algiers as the Government's "take-no-prisoners war" against the hardliners. Two Algerian newspapers reported security service claims on Saturday that up to 400 militants, including Mezrak Madani, the FIS military commander, were killed last week in the eastern province of Jijel.

Chirac ordered by terrorists to cut links with Algeria

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE Islamic terrorist group believed to be responsible for the recent wave of bombings in France has issued an ultimatum to President Chirac to cancel a planned meeting next week with President Zeroual of Algeria or face further bloodshed.

The day after another bomb exploded in the Paris Métro injuring 29 people, the London-based Arabic newspaper *al-Sharq al-Awsat* reported that President Chirac, a retired general who is expected to win next month's election, amounted to an endorsement of his candidacy. "The President's wish is not to support anyone," Mr Chirac's spokesman said yesterday.

The GIA, an offshoot of the banned Islamic Salvation Front and one of the most radical of the groups trying to undermine French support for the military-installed Algerian Government, has claimed responsibility for the bombing campaign in France which has killed seven people and injured 160 since July. The terrorist group also demanded that President Chirac suspend all economic aid to Algeria, close the French Embassy in Algiers and condemn the presidential election due in Algeria on November 16.

France provided about six billion francs (£790 million) in economic aid to Algeria last year.

The French Interior and Foreign Ministries yesterday refused to comment on whether

the GIA's demands had been received, but French security officials have confirmed that the document is genuine. *al-Sharq al-Awsat* reported.

President Chirac yesterday rejected accusations that the planned meeting in New York on October 23 with President Zeroual, a retired general who is expected to win next month's election, amounted to an endorsement of his candidacy. "The President's wish is not to support anyone," Mr Chirac's spokesman said yesterday.

Amid growing fears that France could be dragged into the Algerian conflict, leaders of the Socialist opposition condemned the meeting as "inopportune". Jean-Marie Le Pen, the leader of the far-right National Front, described the move as "lunatic".

President Chirac and Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, both rejected accusations that the Government is meddling in Algerian politics and insisted that the meeting, which will take place during ceremonies to mark the United Nations' fiftieth anniversary, would create a "dialogue" through which pressure could be put on the Algerian Government to introduce democratic reform.

Hervé de Charette, the Foreign Minister, sought to play

down the significance of the meeting with President Zeroual, which he called a normal diplomatic encounter between two heads of state.

More than 40,000 people have died in the political violence that has engulfed Algeria since 1992, when the military-backed Government cancelled elections which Muslim fundamentalists were poised to win.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday repeated calls for all French citizens still in Algeria whose presence is "not essential" to leave the country immediately, as the authorities reinforced security across France in the wake of the bombing on Tuesday.

About 14,500 police and troops have already been deployed in the emergency security operation, codenamed Vigipirate, and a further 4,500 will now be added, Jean-Louis Debré, the Interior Minister, said yesterday. "We have mobilised the security forces as never before," Mr Debré said, while admitting: "We can't prevent all bombings... because there are millions and millions of people who travel by Métro, train, bus or car every day."

The GIA is also reported to have drawn up a hit-list of French journalists whom it has sworn to kill for opposing its "holy war".

Parisians face up to security failure

By BEN MACINTYRE

THE first bomb on the Paris Métro last July killed seven people, leaving the city bewildered and incredulous.

Subsequent attacks did not, however, cause the same level of carnage and, buoyed by promises that the Government would soon round up those responsible, the city became almost resigned to a world in which litter bins were sealed against potential bombers and a visit to the supermarket meant every housewife had to have her bag checked.

The explosion that ripped through another underground train on Tuesday blew away any complacency and illustrated the grim truths many Parisians would rather not face: the threat from Algerian extremists has not abated.

"Paris is scared," *Le Parisien* said in banner headlines yesterday. *Le Figaro* talked darkly about a new "collective hysteria".

An armed gendarme now stands guard outside every Métro station. At rush-hour yesterday, Métro trains were half-empty, many commuters having opted for the bus.

For the first time, French authorities have admitted that the attacks — eight so far, with seven killed and 160 injured — have begun to affect tourism.

The police have carried out about 1.85 million identity checks on French citizens and although many arrests have been made, only five suspected terrorists have been caught.



Jeanne Calment, the Frenchwoman who this week became the world's longest-living person at the age of 120 years 238 days, holds her *Guinness Book of Records* diploma during a celebration yesterday at her retirement home in Arles. Mme Calment, who recommends laughter as a recipe for

One for the record book

longevity and once met Winston Churchill, set her record on Tuesday after passing the age of 120 years 237 days, at which Japan's Shigechiyo Inami died in

1986. "I am very brave and fear nothing," she told reporters. Blind and almost deaf, she hoped everyone would "live a life as happy" as hers and agreed to kiss some of the reporters. Her doctor said the 120-year mark had motivated her. "Now she has few goals to fulfil," (Reuters)

Fiji hints at French envoy ban

Suva: Fiji has suggested that France should recall its ambassador because his safety cannot be guaranteed while Paris continues to test nuclear bombs in the South Pacific.

Filipe Bole, the Fiji Foreign Minister, was quoted as telling Jacques Godfrain, the French Minister for Cooperation, that "Paris might like to think of recalling its ambassador from Fiji, possibly for a prolonged consultation for six months, instead of Fiji sending him away."

The ambassador, Jacques Andre Costille, said he was surprised by the comments, which could be seen as encouraging violence. He said Fiji should guard him. (Reuters)

Sharon to seek Arafat arrest

Tel Aviv: Ariel Sharon, a leading member of the right-wing Likud Party, said that he would recommend that Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chief, be captured and brought to Jerusalem to face trial as a "war criminal" if Likud wins the election next year (Christopher Walker writes). Mr Sharon, the former Defence Minister, ruled out any chance of maintaining the relations with Mr Arafat established by the present Government.

Most Portuguese 'struggle to read'

Lisbon: More than half of the Portuguese population, aged from 15 to 64, has serious difficulties reading and writing, a study by the Social Sciences Institute showed. It said 5.7 million people had problems working with written material and most people did not read newspapers. Antonio Guterres, the Prime Minister-elect, is to boost education spending. (Reuters)

Drive to crush Tamil rebels

Colombo: Sri Lankan forces launched air and artillery strikes against Tamil Tiger rebels on the second day of a push to crush their Jaffna stronghold. The Army said it had killed 61 guerrillas. The government says more than 50,000 people have died in the 12-year war. (Reuters)

New trial threat for Stasi spy

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

MARKUS WOLF, East Germany's notorious spymaster, had his six-year jail sentence overturned yesterday. However, the former Stasi general was not celebrating too much: the judges have ruled that he must face an investigation into whether he ran spy operations from countries such as Sweden or Austria.

Herr Wolf, 72, controlled agents who penetrated every political party in West Germany; he is regarded as the most successful spy chief of the Cold War years. The federal court of justice has

been contemplating his case since May. Then, the Constitutional Court ruled against the prosecution of espionage as long as the spying was carried out exclusively from East German territory. The legal logic was clear: East German spies obeyed East German laws and could not be held guilty of treason.

Moreover, they should be treated equally with West German spies. That appeared to get Herr Wolf — who has since become a minor celebrity — off the hook. He was sentenced in 1993 to six years' im-

prisonment for treason and for bribing West Germans to spy for the East.

The judges yesterday ordered prosecutors to see if there is enough evidence for a new trial on the basis of his spying activities in non-War-saw East countries. It is known that he met German agents in Sweden and Austria.

If the prosecutors can make charges of blackmail and bribery stick, then Herr Wolf may yet end up behind bars. But legal sources say the most likely outcome is that further charges will be dropped.

Swedish leader will face fraud inquiry

FROM NICHOLAS GEORGE IN STOCKHOLM

MONA SAHLIN, the Swedish Deputy Prime Minister, is to face a criminal investigation into her misuse of government credit cards, prosecutors said yesterday.

The move cast further doubt on her ambition to succeed Ingvar Carlsson, the Prime Minister, who is to step down next March. Mrs Sahlin, 38, who had been the only candidate for the leadership of the ruling Social Democratic Party, has withdrawn her candidature for the job until after the outcome of the inquiry. Mr Carlsson made it clear yesterday that he had no intention of changing his mind about stepping down. According to the prosecu-

tors, Mrs Sahlin could face charges of breach of trust and fraud. "There is reason to assume that Mona Sahlin's handling of the credit card and the subsequent invoicing was criminal," Solveig Riberdahl, the assistant prosecutor, said yesterday.

Mrs Sahlin, who has paid back the money, with interest, said she welcomed the investigation. She has admitted making mistakes but insists that she is not a cheat.

In the meantime, attention is focusing on Jan Nygren, the Minister of Co-ordination, as the next favourite to lead the party. Goran Persson, the Finance Minister, is also under pressure to stand.

**'SPEND
SPEND
SPEND'
SAY SWISS
BANKERS**

Until then, there's Glenfiddich to enjoy.



Save up to £50 on your car insurance.



THE MISSING
Andrew
O'Hagan

"The literary antidote to the poison of true-crime mags and serial-killer biographies."

The Herald

"Beginning in Glasgow in the 1970s and ending in Gloucester in 1994... after *The Missing* Britain doesn't look quite the same place"

Blake Morrison, *Guardian*

AVAILABLE NOW IN HARDBACK

PICADOR

سكزا من الأصل

Corruption paves way to Nigeria's breakdown

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN ABUJA

THE line of cars retreated, bumper to bumper, through the petrol station, stretching back along a highway in the centre of Abuja, before snaking down a side street out of view. "That's Nigeria for you," sighed a weary taxi driver.

Petrol queues in a country producing two million barrels of oil a day and the fourth biggest producer in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries are mind-boggling, but in this top-heavy country reality is often detached from reason.

The Government's excuses for the shortages often border on the ridiculous — technical problems is a favourite — but the people are only too aware that mismanagement and the greasing of palms have crippled refineries.

The discovery of oil is the key to discovering Nigeria. Between 1970 and the collapse of world oil prices in the early 1980s, \$100 billion (£63 billion) flowed into Nigeria's coffers and out again just as quickly. Influential members of the patchwork of tribes — dominated by three, the Hausa, Fulani, the Ibo and the Yoruba — felt a duty to look after their own and did so with alarming success.

Today Nigeria is synonymous with corruption. The army chief with his range of sports cars, the minister who jets off to Las Vegas for a weekend and the President's wife squandering thousands of pounds on a foreign trip — the stories are endless. In this wealth-obsessed society it is cool to say "spicy" — passing banter on a street — and "dashing" (bribery) and "fraud" are part of everyday life.

Nigeria's incurable taste for spending beyond its means is manifest in Abuja. In 1975 the military decided to move the capital from chaotic Lagos to bush in the middle of the country. Twenty years later, Abuja's skyline is dotted with skeletons of half-finished buildings — costs have multiplied and money has dried up. A safe distance from the President's gleaming white villa, sprawling Gariki village offers a glimpse of the lifestyle endured by most Nigerians: The shanty settlement of an estimated 500,000 in central Abuja has no running water or electricity. Children scamper in rotting piles of garbage and hidden from view — a female leper, legs wrapped in plastic, squats on her haunches by a stream of greyish filth.

from an open sewer. At a fly-blown food market, a butcher said: "The commoners are suffering but the Government could not care less. Some, like me, turn to the Almighty but others turn to crime. Who can blame them?"

The Government can and it does. Grease and effect are overlooked as criminals are highlighted as scapegoats for the military's failures. Such is the economic misery that draconian sentences and mass executions have done nothing to stem the crime wave sweeping the country. Armed robberies and car hijackings are commonplace.

The Government responds to criticism by setting up committees and berating outsiders for failing to understand the complexities of running a country with nearly 100 million people. It says thousands take to the streets "in support" of its policies, but nobody is fooled by the stage-managed "rant-a-crowds".

General Sani Abacha, Nigeria's military ruler, has repeatedly denied that the country's leading opposition politician, Chief Moshood Abiola, is a political prisoner and his case



Abacha has publicly branded Abiola guilty

is judicial — this from the same man who has already said publicly that the chief, widely believed to have won the 1993 presidential election, is guilty.

Walter Oronogoro, the Information Minister, is pleading with Western governments for greater sympathy. On a potholed road in Lagos, I pondered his plea, while two police officers denounced me as a spy, a subversive and anti-Nigerian. My protest that their Government had invited me was met only by threat of arrest and at the end of my 15-minute ordeal one inquired whether he could have "something for the weekend".



Anxious Palestinian families expelled from Libya wait aboard the car ferry anchored off the Cyprus port of Larnaca for news of their fate

Syrian signal of hope for stranded exiles

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU ON BOARD THE COUNTESS M. OFF CYPRUS

THE fate of 650 Palestinians, including more than 300 young children and babies, stranded on board a car ferry off Cyprus after being expelled from Libya remained uncertain last night, after Syria agreed to accept most of them.

It was unclear whether the Greek captain of the Cyprus-flagged Countess M was prepared to set sail unless all would be accepted.

Syria, which turned the ship away earlier this week, said it would take those with Syrian

documents. Most had these, but others were travelling on Lebanese and Jordanian papers. Palestinian officials said 600 had Syrian travel documents and had lived in Syria before going to Libya.

Before the Syrian decision that could end their ordeal, the passengers were being used as political pawns. "We don't know why we're here," said Omar, 35, a civil engineer and father of two. "It seems our fault is we are Palestinians."

There were children everywhere on board, playing in the carpeted corridors while mothers dandled babies sucking at bottles of milk. Mona, 27, whose five children were huddled round her, said: "There isn't enough baby milk, or Pampers or medicine and we have no doctor."

"They are angry and nervous," said Samir Abu Ghazala, head of the Palestinian mission in Cyprus, who was given a rapturous welcome when he visited the ship,

anchored a mile offshore. "They've lost everything in Libya and have been thrown into the unknown."

Publicly, none was willing to blame Syria or Libya for their plight, in case they were admitted to either country. Privately, many were furious with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, who ordered the expulsion of 30,000 Palestinians, ostensibly to expose the shortcomings in the deal between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Org-

anisation, which made no provision for hundreds of thousands of refugees.

"Gaddafi said 'you've got a country, now go to it'," said Eteldad Hattid, 23, in a Larnaca hospital, where she was expected to give birth to twins last night. An RAF helicopter airlifted her from the ship on Tuesday. Sobbing, she said: "I miss my husband and little girl — she's four — they're still on the ship. Of course," she added hurriedly, "we don't blame Gaddafi."

Three die each day in Kenya prisons

By INIGO GILMORE

KENYA'S Government has come under renewed criticism over its human rights record after a senior minister disclosed that at least three people die each day in the country's squalid, overcrowded prisons.

The disclosure was made by Francis Lotodo, the Home Affairs Minister, who told parliament that 619 prisoners had died since the start of the year. They had succumbed to diseases that included malaria, tuberculosis, AIDS, diarrhoea, pneumonia and typhoid. Of the total, 291 were on remand awaiting trial.

The news was greeted by shouts of "shame" from opposition politicians. Backed by sections of the media, they have accused the Government of disregard for human life. An editorial in yesterday's *East African Standard* said: "It's no longer a dirty secret: you don't have to be sentenced to death to die in Kenya's prisons."

In June, Mr Lotodo admitted the country's prisons were overcrowded by 30 per cent, with 37,000 living in space designed for 21,000. Press reports claimed that the prisons were five times over their limit.

Earlier this month, Emmanuel O'Kobasi, a High Court judge, said jails were not much better than death chambers and the Government did not follow official diet and hygiene guidelines.

Poorly clothed and naked, prisoners slept on filthy mattresses in overcrowded cells. According to human rights activists, they are regularly beaten by guards, food is poor and scarce, and medicine is rarely available.

Commonwealth rights abuses attacked

By MICHAEL BUNYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AN INFLUENTIAL Commonwealth human rights group yesterday denounced widespread abuses in many Commonwealth states, and accused governments of ignoring the 1991 Harare declarations on democracy, freedom of expression and the rule of law.

A month before the 52-nation summit in Auckland, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative said that mili-

tary rule was incompatible with full membership, and called for the breaking off of sporting links with Nigeria. It has already called for the country's suspension until it has restored human rights and produced a firm timetable for a return to civilian rule.

Kamal Hossain, a former Bangladesh Foreign Minister who chairs the human rights advisory commission, said: "There's no justification for treating lightly in the case of Nigeria. We have to come out loud and clear and say there's

no room for this in the Commonwealth."

The report coincides with a Foreign Office warning to General Sani Abacha that unless his military Government accelerated moves to return to democracy, Britain would consider additional sanctions against Nigeria.

Yesterday's report, entitled *Rights Do Matter*, condemned prison conditions in India, and said torture in jails had become the norm in Pakistan. The report also criticised Kenya's ban on indepen-

dent radio stations, and Zimbabwe's hostility to private broadcasting. It expressed alarm at the concentration of media ownership in Britain and criticised the Government for not condemning French nuclear tests and for refusing full citizenship to British nationals from ethnic minorities in Hong Kong.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, will not attend the summit, and some countries may see this as indicative of Britain's lack of interest in the Commonwealth.

Gaddafi to expel million aliens

By MARK HUBAND
NORTH AFRICA
CORRESPONDENT

LIBYA is planning to expel more than a million foreign workers in what is regarded as a response to its worsening economic problems and rising unemployment.

Details of Tripoli's intention emerged at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council sanctions committee late on Tuesday. The committee rejected a request from Libya for the UN embargo on flights to the country to be lifted to allow the expulsion of 1,067,000 workers who, the regime of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi claims, are on its territory illegally.

Last month, Libya expelled 5,000 of its Palestinian population of 30,000 in an attempt to disrupt the Middle East peace accord, creating Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The new wave of expulsions, which would reduce the population of Libya by a fifth, appears to have no direct political motive, according to Western diplomats.

One diplomatic source said: "In the case of the Palestinians, there was a strong political motive. That has been a feature of the leader's behaviour in the past: to threaten or to go through with the expulsion of foreign workers of one nationality or another. It has been used against Tunisia and Egypt. But the picture we have been getting is that there are now economic problems too, exacerbated to a certain extent by the effect of sanctions."

At least 500,000 of those facing expulsion are Sudanese, 300,000 are from Chad and 250,000 from Mali. The rest are from other West African countries. In letters to the UN committee, Libya sought permission for facilities for Libyan or UN aircraft and said that more than 2,200 flights would be needed. It said it had reached agreement with countries of origin for the foreigners' return.

Air links to Libya were cut as part of UN sanctions in response to its failure to hand over two men accused by America and Britain of responsibility for the bombing of a Pan Am flight over Lockerbie in 1988 in which 257 people were killed.

COLLECT FIVE TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THE NEWEST CONCEPT IN MODERN MOTORING



Win the new Galaxy GLX

THE FORD GALAXY is the newest concept in modern motoring and *The Times*, in association with Ford, is giving you the chance to win the GLX.

The Galaxy is the ultimate flexible four wheels on the road to suit your life-style: a load carrier for the DIY fanatic, the school run vehicle, the executive car, the motorway cruiser, or the vehicle that tugs up and down mountains for a weekend jaunt.

All you have to do to win the seven-seater Galaxy GLX 2.0i (rrp £18,000) is collect five out of seven tokens to be printed in *The Times* daily until Saturday, October 21 and attach them to the official application form which will be printed on Saturday.

If you want to see the car it will be on display on stand P6 at the London Motor Show, Earls Court, October 18-29. If you cannot get to the show, ring the Ford Information Service 0345 833 833 and you will be sent information on the Galaxy.

The competition closes on Tuesday, November 21, 1995. The winner will be drawn at random from all entries received by that date.

For your chance to win send your entry to: *The Times*/Galaxy Competition, 30, Bouverie St, London EC8R 4NG. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.



Caste row topples hardliners

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN DELHI

INDIA'S biggest state government collapsed yesterday, forcing Delhi to impose direct rule and bringing hope to the embattled Congress party that its fortunes may be rising. A general election is expected early next year.

Uttar Pradesh, population 120 million, had a unique political arrangement in which high caste from the hardline Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), shared power with "Untouchables", now more commonly called Dalits (the oppressed).

Mayawati, the Chief Minister, was the first woman Untouchable to reach such political heights. Her Bahujan Samaj Party resigned when the BJP withdrew its support after caste and policy clashes.

The peculiar political mix had lasted just over four months. The two parties, which represent the opposite ends of the Hindu social spectrum, came together out of expediency after the previous coalition collapsed.

Essential information on over 1,500 medicines

What's in the medicines you take? What will they do to your body? Are you receiving the most effective treatment? So often it seems that GPs are too busy to tell you very much about what they are prescribing and why. But now help is at hand.

Completely independent, *Which? Medicine* takes a critical look at commonly used prescription and non-prescription medicines, posing questions on your behalf and providing detailed, honest and reliable answers. In over 500 pages it examines the benefits and risks of over 1,500 medicines — many of them now available without a prescription — and includes a glossary of medical terminology, plus names and addresses of self-help groups.

This essential guide from the publishers of *Which?* also offers specific advice on medicines used by the over-65s, and medicine record sheets to help you monitor your use of medicines and communicate effectively with your doctor or pharmacist. Order *Which? Medicine* and we'll also send you a FREE copy of our useful and much-publicised booklet, *Chaperone than a Prescription*, which lists hundreds of over-the-counter medicines that cost under £5.25.

Which? Medicine costs just £12.99 (P&P FREE). To order, send your name and address, the book title and your payment (cheque made payable to *Which?* Ltd or credit card number with expiry date) to: *Which?*, PO Box 89, Dept SP09, Hertford, SG14 1TB. Or call FREEPHONE 0800 252 100 (quoting Dept SP09). Orders are normally despatched within 14 days of receipt. Full refund if not satisfied.

NEW IMPROVED SERVICE - SAME LOW PRICE

From just £29

the RAC covers you in any car.

- Membership of the RAC still starts at just £29 — but now your basic cover offers even more benefits.
- RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone else's car.
 - Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free of charge.
 - Accident Service. A free courtesy car, free legal advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers.

- Theft and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or can't be driven because of vandalism, we'll get you home and recover your car, too.
 - Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot.
- Whatever service you use, callouts and labour are free — you only pay for parts.
- You can also tailor your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our 'At Home' service.
- Don't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the RAC today.

PHONE FREE TODAY ON
0800 029 029
OR INTERNET
<http://www.rac.co.uk/>

AND QUOTE SS1424/3/XX



YES — I want to join the RAC. Please tell me how I can join from just £29:

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms
Address

Postcode

Telephone

Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stamp needed.)

*Rescue costs £29 if you pay by Continuous Credit Card Authority or Direct Debit. All prices include an enrolment fee. Phone lines open Monday - Friday 8am - 8pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm.

ST0004/SS1424/3/XX



IT SAYS
YOU'VE ARRIVED

Dole urges Powell to keep out of White House race

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

ROBERT DOLE, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination, is publicly discouraging General Colin Powell, his strongest potential rival, from entering the race. As he nears his decision, however, the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has begun conspicuously courting the party's dominant conservative wing.

Mr Dole is warning General Powell that the adulation he has encountered during his national book tour is deceptive and his popularity will start to slide the moment he declares his candidature.

The general has been lobbied "more softly" by the media in the last 30 days than anybody in memory, said the Senate leader who is making his third attempt to enter the White House. "He will discover, I think, you are most popular in politics the day you get in and the day you get out." A book tour was not the same as stumping across Iowa or New Hampshire. "You have got to have a message. You have got to have an agenda. You have got to have some ideas."

General Powell's book tour ends in Norfolk, Virginia, tomorrow. He will decide whether to run within the next three or four weeks, but is seeking to broaden his support by reaching out to the Republican Right. Having ini-

tially labelled the *Contract with America* put forward by Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, "too hard" and "too harsh", he now finds in it "energy, life and a willingness to change".

Having earlier declared himself pro-choice, he now emphasises his personal opposition to abortion and its federal funding. Having deplored the religious Right's intolerance in his book, he now applauds it "for focusing our attention again on the fact we are one nation under God, focusing our attention on the family... the need for structure in the home... the need to love and raise children in a caring environment".

General Powell has "said the three or four things he had to say to be acceptable for the

Republican nomination", William Kristol, a Republican strategist, said. With polls placing the general ten percentage points ahead of President Clinton, many conservatives would need little encouragement to vote for him.

Mr Dole, by contrast, trails Mr Clinton, and a remarkable volte-face on Tuesday night did nothing to consolidate his conservative support. In August he returned a \$1,000 (\$630) donation from a Republican homosexual organisation, saying he did not agree with its agenda. Now he has disowned that decision, blaming it on his staff, Phil Gramm, a presidential rival, suggested that his Senate colleague was having trouble deciding "who he is and what he stands for".

□ **Wife's complaint:** Hillary Clinton, in an unusually candid discussion of her time in the White House, protested that first ladies are caught in an "inevitable double bind", criticised if too active and criticised if not active enough. She begged to be judged solely by her performance.

Mrs Clinton was speaking at the end of a Latin American tour that avoided politics and inspired several American newspapers to suggest that she had adopted a more traditional First Lady's role, lest she prove a liability to her husband's re-election chances.

New FBI rules of engagement

Washington: The FBI is changing its rules of engagement to avoid a repetition of its action at Ruby Ridge, when the wife and son of Randy Weaver, a white separatist, were killed during a siege three years ago (Tom Rhodes writes). Deadly force may now be used only in the face of death or serious injury.

Washington: The FBI is changing its rules of engagement to avoid a repetition of its action at Ruby Ridge, when the wife and son of Randy Weaver, a white separatist, were killed during a siege three years ago (Tom Rhodes writes). Deadly force may now be used only in the face of death or serious injury.

Officials 'lied over size of march'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

LOUIS FARRAKHAN says he will sue America's National Park Service for underestimating the size of Monday's Million Man March in Washington for racist reasons.

The Nation of Islam leader claimed he had organised the biggest demonstration in Washington's history, with well over a million men, but the National Park Service's estimate of the attendance was 400,000, making it only the fourth largest political rally.

"Racism, white supremacy and hatred for Louis Farrakhan disallows them from giving us credit," Mr Farrakhan said at a two-hour press conference. "We cannot and will not allow [the marchers] place in history to be written out simply because of white supremacy." The park service stood by its estimate.

Mr Farrakhan called for a summit of the country's black leaders to develop a political agenda, to create a fund to promote black businesses and to set up a task force to counter black social disintegration. Six congressmen called for a national commission to report on race relations, and Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, said the march was "a wake-up call for all America".



Saddam Hussein being sworn in on the Koran

Saddam pledge to Iraq

Baghdad: President Saddam Hussein, in his first speech to the nation in more than three months, promised that in his next seven years in power he would follow the same path as in the past. Saddam, speaking in the Iraqi parliament after his election, gave no hint anything would change now

that he is President by "popular" referendum rather than because of the coup of 1968. State television inexcusably started broadcasting the proceedings at 12.30am yesterday, after most Iraqis had gone to bed. Artillery gave Saddam a 101-gun salute at the ceremony on Tuesday. (Reuters)

OJ is back on course

Panama City Beach, Florida: O.J. Simpson, whose chipping-in-the-dark alibi was ridiculed by prosecutors at his murder trial, was back on a golf course this week, watched by his girlfriend, Paula Barbieri.

"The man just came to play some golf, and that's what he did," said Paul Sylvester, manager of the pro shop and food services at the Hombres Golf Club, which is privately owned but open to the public. Mr Simpson shot an 82 on the 72-par course in a foursome of two local residents, whose names Mr Sylvester would not disclose, and the course superintendent, Joe Imman. Mr Imman told a reporter that Mr Simpson's game was a little shaky on the first half but then improved. The trial was not mentioned. (AP)



O.J. Simpson argues golfing points during a game in Florida watched by his girlfriend, Paula Barbieri, top left

Car boom brings Moscow traffic to a standstill

FROM RICHARD BRESTON IN MOSCOW

FROM the elegant, tree-lined boulevards of Moscow's centre to the eight-lane highways that dissect the city, the Russian capital is grinding to a halt.

Crowding under the strain of thousands of new cars arriving on the streets each week, Moscow's chaotic traffic system is in danger of becoming gridlocked from one bumper-to-bumper rush hour to the next.

"We already have about 1.5 million vehicles on the road in Moscow," a transport official said. "The bad news is that the number is increasing by about 200,000 a year. We cannot cope."

The problem is partly due to construction work in the city centre, which has blocked off key intersections and brought the rest of the capital to a standstill. Aggravating the situation are Soviet-era practices which continue to rule the streets: the strict road hierarchy, which if anything has become worse since the collapse of the one-party state.

As in the Brezhnev era, convoys of black Zil limousines and Mercedes escorts carrying President Yeltsin and other leaders to work travel on roads cleared of other traffic by the police.

The "automotive-age food chain", as one local columnist described it, persists. Top bureaucrats and rich bankers expect to be able to push to the front of a line of cars by virtue of their status. "The Ziguil (Lada) defers to the Niva, which gives right of way to the Volga, which gets cut off by the Ford Escort, which gets driven off the road by the

Volvo, which gets blown to smithereens by the inevitable Mercedes-Benz," wrote Daisy Sindelar in the *Moscow Times*. "Pedestrians don't stand a chance."

Added to the irritation caused by highway elitism is the chronic state of most of the city's roads. Although Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, can take credit for improving the condition of some streets, the newly surfaced stretches of highway appear to be concentrated along routes used most frequently by the Kremlin elite.

For the rest of the city the sight of a road repair crew is a distant memory. Earlier this year the situation became so serious that a local newspaper ran a "Miss Pothole" competition, asking readers to send in photographs of the city's largest holes, some of them big enough to swallow a small car and still have room for a motorcycle or two.

To get round the nightmare on the roads, Muscovites have the alternative of going under or over the congested streets. But the Moscow Metro, once the pride of socialist mass transport, is stretched to capacity. Delays are now so common that the authorities provide written explanations about delays to long-suffering commuters, whose bosses no longer believe their excuses for being late for work so often.

The other option, to soar above the problem, is still in its infancy. Vertikal-T, a new company with six Mi8 transport helicopters, provides a shuttle service between Moscow's three airports and two points near the city centre.

UN staff feel the burden of red tape

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

UNITED NATIONS employees feel they are working in a nepotistic environment dominated by excessive bureaucracy and political pressure, but remain motivated by a universal ideal, according to a worldwide survey by UN staff. Of the 4,252 employees who responded, 62 per cent said that bureaucracy was the organisation's main weakness.

Seventy per cent said recruitment procedures failed to hire the best candidates. Two-thirds, including some of the organisation's directors, felt that having "good friends" was the main factor in career advancement.

But directors were less enthusiastic about a proposal by 71 per cent that they would like to evaluate their supervisors. One respondent said: "The UN should not be a ship with several decks, where some get sunbathed and others work."

But the first attempt to draw a picture of UN staff shows that, despite being demoralised by bureaucracy, political meddling by states, and the lack of money, they appear to be driven by an overwhelming belief in their mission. Only 12 per cent claim to be there because of the pay.

But staff have doubts about the effectiveness of the world body, especially in the areas of the environment, human rights and development.

Heidi MacLean, a private consultant advising on UN reform, said: "The whole organisation is at a crossroads... of needing to move beyond talking about change, to actually achieving it."

Spain's trial run for juries wins praise

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

THE first trial by jury in Spain was pronounced a success yesterday after judges from 19 regional courts attended a rehearsal in Majorca.

A test jury of nine men and two women found a 22-year-old man guilty of killing a businessman, 60. But the jury agreed there were extenuating circumstances as the victim had sexually attacked the accused, who was drunk.

There was applause after the verdict was announced. In reality, a tribunal of nine judges will decide the fate of the accused, but after November 23 one judge and a jury of nine will try similar cases in Spain's regional courts.

Miguel Cid, an adviser to the Justice Ministry, said the delay in introducing the jury system was because of fears that "the always slow and at times incredibly slow and confused judicial machine would be upset even more".

Three years ago a government survey showed that 47

per cent of potential jurors did not want to serve; only 19 per cent said they would do so gladly. In a country where corruption and bribery are a way of life and tax evasion is the national sport, Spaniards have always been reluctant to denounce their neighbours.

So far, 30,000 citizens aged over 48 have been selected for jury service. They can be excused only for a valid reason, such as disability or work pressures, and can be fined and even jailed for repeatedly refusing to serve. A month before calling for a trial, 36 candidates will be sent a questionnaire on their private lives. A minimum of 20 people will be selected, then reduced to nine jurors plus two reserves. At least seven votes will be needed to convict and a 5-4 majority to acquit.

Cases that will be tried by jury include murder, manslaughter, abuse of public office, housebreaking and starting forest fires.

Star tried to help brother die

FROM QUENTIN LETTIS IN NEW YORK



Moore: would be ready to repeat her actions

AN AMERICAN television presenter has stated that she tried to help her cancer-ridden brother die. Mary Tyler Moore, star of countless television shows since the 1950s, spoon-fed her brother ice cream into which she had mashed a potentially fatal mixture of pills.

The attempt to end her brother's life failed and he endured further pain before dying three months later. Miss Moore said, however, that she would do it again.

Miss Moore's announcement, in a forthcoming auto-

biography, stoked debate in America yesterday about euthanasia. Judie Brown, the president of the American Life League, expressed dismay that euthanasia would be encouraged by Mary Tyler Moore's action. She said: "People need to know who is in charge of life and death, and that is God."

Roy R. Torasso, the former president of the Hemlock Society and a veteran campaigner for "death with dignity" said: "It is horribly cruel to force people to endure unrelenting pain." He said that 73 per cent

of adult Americans support the right to euthanasia. Of Miss Moore's attempt to kill her brother, he said: "People should not attempt this without adequate instruction."

In her book Miss Moore writes that her brother, John, was so ill with kidney cancer that "it was impossible to hug him - he hurt too much. He asked me to mash [the pills] into ice cream, the only food his stomach could tolerate." She and other family members sat by his bed with "a mixture of sadness, anticipated relief, and fury".

Call the AA and ask about Family Membership. Call 0500 444 444 to join.

TO OUR MEMBERS WE'RE THE 4TH EMERGENCY SERVICE

© 1995 by M. G. Hermann

All rights reserved. Used by permission Robert L. Bell, Melrose, Mass. 02178 USA.

مجلس الامم المتحدة

To make prod

That's why

For more



To make a Japanese worker even more productive, turn him into a Scouser.

Merseyside's car industry has adopted proven Japanese production methods and working practices. To these we've added Merseyside's greatest natural resource; the traditional enthusiasm, famous humour and can-do attitude of its people.

That's why Merseyside workers are 12% more productive than the national average.

MERSEYSIDE

A pool of talent

For more information on investment opportunities on Merseyside call 0800-22 0151

How long-distance travellers can minimise jet lag □ A guide to the heart and liver □ Clues to fertility in the white cell count



THE Medicines Control Agency, the organisation which supervises the use of drugs in Britain to ensure high standards of safety, has written to the suppliers of the synthetic hormone melatonin to warn them that in future it will be available only on prescription.

Melatonin is usually produced by the pineal gland, little bigger than a pea and tucked away under the brain. It is the only hormone that the gland produces.

The role of melatonin is uncertain and extravagant claims are made for its rejuvenating powers. The medical view is that melatonin probably governs circadian rhythm, the cyclical activities of the body which are often referred to as the body clock.

The body's timekeeping is badly disturbed by any travel across time zones and it is this disruption of circadian rhythm which is thought to cause jet lag. One of the popular, but unproven, methods of countering jet lag is to take additional melatonin before going

Keeping up the rhythm

to sleep; its advocates recommend that it should be taken for some days before travel, as well as when away.

Dr Michael Davies, director of health services for British Airways, does not share the confidence expressed in melatonin by a much travelled author, who returned to Britain this week after a ten-day tour in which she stayed in eight different cities and zig-zagged across North and South America, before coming back via Paris. The author swore that it was regular melatonin that saved her



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttford

from jet lag and made her trip productive.

Dr Davies says: "Nobody knows why, or even if, melatonin is an efficient treatment for jet lag. The hormone does act as a mild hypnotic and it is possible that, by making certain that travellers sleep, their jet lag is reduced."

"We recommend that passengers who find it difficult to sleep while away should take a short-acting sleeping pill, one that has completely left the body in six to eight hours. This treatment seems every bit as effective as taking melatonin."

British Airways has considerable expertise in passenger health. Its advice on jet lag is that if a passenger arrives at a destination in daylight, he or she should not resist the urge to have a quick sleep if it has not been possible to take a nap on the aircraft. If the stay overseas is for less than four days Dr Davies says it is as well, if possible, to stay on home time; for longer periods the changeover to local time should be as fast as possible. If a passenger arrives at the destination at night, sleep is easier, but for the first night or two a sleeping pill may be needed.

BA also offers in-flight exercises as part of its "well-being in the air" programme. These are designed to keep the muscles moving and thereby reduce the remote possibility of suffering a deep vein thrombosis, and later a pulmonary embolism, a risk in any form of travel when the passenger is sitting for any length of time.

BA is now liaising with some hotels at its long-haul destinations to provide its holiday passengers with an anti-jet lag package of exercises and spa treatments after their long flight.

Risky drink



SOME people's lives are haunted by the possibility of a rise in the level of the liver enzyme, gamma-glutamyl transaminase, the gamma-GT of the annual medical examination, which is often taken as a benchmark of the liver's health, and therefore a guide to the amount a person is drinking. The authorities are also concerned by the gamma-GT level. Despite repeated warnings by doctors that too much alcohol is only one of many possible causes of increased gamma-GT, many politicians and court officials still equate it with over-indulgence.

The message that a raised gamma-GT isn't always related to liver disease is reinforced by research published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. The study, funded by the British Heart Foundation and carried out by Dr Goya Wannamethee and her team at the Royal Free Hospital in

London, found that only one man in five with a high gamma-GT was a heavy drinker.

Doctors are accustomed to cabining the ruffled feathers of patients who, despite an alcohol intake which wouldn't disgrace a Methodist minister, have been warned not to drink so much. However, while the survey confirms that a patient with a high gamma-GT isn't necessarily a secret drinker, it does indicate an increased likelihood of a heart attack. Men with gamma-GTs in the top 20 per cent had a 40 per cent increased chance of a heart attack.

Baby boost



WHEN British astronauts were being selected to join the Russian space programme one of the tests demanded by the Soviet medical authorities was a prostatic sear. Prostate fluid had to be massaged out of their prostates, and then examined under the microscope to

check for the presence of white cells, indicative of pus and possible infection. The procedure is uncomfortable, sometimes painful, and not surprisingly the would-be pilots couldn't understand its relevance to space travel.

The white cell count, whether in semen or prostatic fluid, forms a large part of the total volume of the semen. It is of considerable relevance when a couple are finding conception difficult. This has recently been convincingly confirmed by research published in the *Journal of Reproductive Medicine*. When the doctors found that there was leucocytospermia, defined as more than 1 million white cells per ml, they treated both partners with doxycycline, a broad spectrum antibiotic which is particularly effective in penetrating prostatic tissue. The treatment was effective in two-thirds of the cases. In these men the count was reduced to normal levels. After six months more than half the female partners of the successfully treated men had conceived, but only 6 per cent of those women partnered by men who had not responded to doxycycline became pregnant.

The curse of the thick head may be over

Traditional remedies are often the best. So it is surprising how few people resort to the commonest of all ailments — the common cold. Ten minutes with a towel over the head, breathing in the steam from a flat pan of boiling water spiced with menthol, works like a miracle for unblocking the nasal passages. At the same time it prevents the most grievous complication of the cold — sinusitis.

The sinuses are large air-filled holes in the skull on either side of the nose, whose prime function is to humidify and warm air on its way down to the lungs, while filtering out bacteria, viruses and other particulate matter. By protecting the lungs from damage, however, the sinuses themselves are vulnerable to infection. Repeated attacks damage their lining, resulting in chronic sinusitis — a constant source of misery for those afflicted.

The sinuses become filled with a sort of infected glue that

New thinking and new surgical techniques have led to a revolution in the treatment of chronic sinusitis, says Dr James Le Fanu



ENT surgeon Grant Bates using a nasal endoscope

drips down the back of the nose, causing sufferers to wake in the morning with a vile taste in the mouth. They feel, and indeed are, "bunged up". The head feels heavy, headaches are common, and

infrequently they give off an unpleasant odour, or halitosis, that is socially inhibiting.

But probably the worst problem for those with chronic sinusitis is that it has in the past been so difficult for both family doctors and ENT specialists to treat successfully. Such pessimism is no longer warranted. Ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgeons now realise that the condition is not intractable and that past failures may have been due to a poor understanding of the working of the sinuses. This has now been corrected and as a result "the treatment of chronic sinusitis has been revolutionised in the last decade", says Robert Slack, ENT specialist at the Royal United Hospital, Bath. "Eighty-five per cent of patients can now expect to have a good or very good outcome."

In order to appreciate the significance of this development, it is necessary to clarify the function of the sinuses. Air enters through an opening, or ostium, at the back of the nose and then circulates to the four main groups of sinuses. Bacteria and other particles are trapped in a fine layer of mucus on the inner surface of the sinuses and then expelled back out through the nose by the action of millions of minute hairs, or cilia, beating rhythmically about 700 times a minute. Damage to this mucociliary transport, as it is known, lies at the heart of chronic sinusitis.

If, for any reason, the opening into the sinuses is narrowed, this reduces the amount of air flowing through them, depriving the mucus lining of oxygen. This renders the mucus secretions more acidic, which in turn impairs the action of the cilia. A vicious circle then sets in where the sinuses become more vulnerable to infection and the mucociliary transport is further impaired so the infective organisms cannot be removed. As the disease progresses the mucus lining becomes increasingly damaged, with a decrease in the rhythmic movement of the cilia to less than 300 beats per minute, says Kathryn Evans, consultant ENT surgeon at the Gloucester Royal Hospital.

For almost a century ENT surgeons have sought to treat this problem with the Caldwell-Luc operation, named after its pioneers. This involves making a hole in the lower part of the sinuses, allowing them to drain with the help of gravity and at the same time stripping off the damaged lining of the sinuses



Robert Slack performs keyhole sinus surgery. The operation enormously improves the lives of sinusitis sufferers

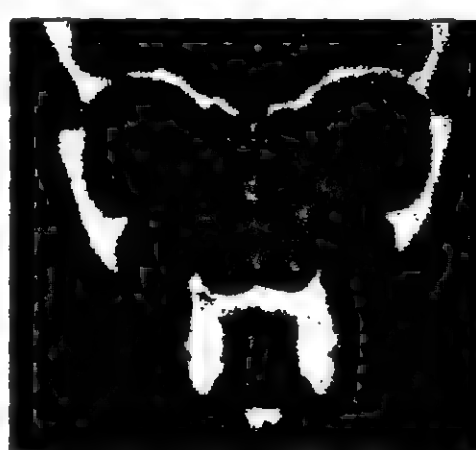
themselves. The limitation of this approach has become clear as a result of two important technical advances which in turn have led to the revolution in treatment.

The first is the CT scanner, which has given surgeons a much better understanding of the anatomy of the sinuses and particularly the crucial part played by any narrowing or

is summarised by David Kennedy, an ENT surgeon in Baltimore. "The conventional opinion has always been that the lining of the sinuses becomes irreversibly diseased, and needs to be completely removed. But now we have come to realise that chronic sinusitis is primarily a disease of obstruction of the ostium."

The priority now is to relieve that obstruction, which is also performed through the endoscope — an operation known as Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery, or FESS. The ostium is directly seen and is widened by cutting away the tissue surrounding it. This enormously improves the ventilation of the sinuses and the damaged lining should then heal spontaneously. "After surgery it may take many months for the mucosal changes (damage to the lining of the sinuses) to reverse," said Dr Evans. "So supplementary treatments with regular inhalations, antibiotics and steroids will be necessary during this time."

Four years ago, on becoming a consultant in Bath, Robert Slack trained in the keyhole surgery necessary for FESS, and has been using this minimally invasive technique on patients ever since. He says that, even though it may not be possible to relieve all the symptoms for those who have suffered from chronic sinusitis for many years, "there is absolutely no doubt that patients are doing a lot better than in the past."



CT scans: healthy sinuses, clear of infection



A blocked head typical of chronic sinusitis

worry about your company's technology

but don't worry about your company's health

These days, it only takes a matter of months for your business to look out of date.

At least choose healthcare that's always setting the trend.

On-going investment in our Customhealth computer system keeps us one jump ahead of the industry. It enables us to offer the fastest, most efficient administration — even tailor schemes

and documentation to suit the larger company. And our dedicated service — voted top in our recent Gallup poll — will never go out of fashion.

Guardian Health

Customhealth is a registered trademark of Guardian Health. Customhealth is a registered trademark of Guardian Health. Customhealth is a registered trademark of Guardian Health.

Prostex
THE PROSTATE SUPPLEMENT

3 MONTH'S SUPPLY FOR ONLY £15.90
(Normal Price £24.90)

PROSTEX™ — A UNIQUE FORMULA

Nature's Best Prostex Formula contains a particular combination of nutrients for the mature man.

What makes our product unique is that it is derived from the natural oils of the Saw Palmetto, which has been the subject of many studies with men in their mid to late years.

Prostex is one of over 140 products in the Nature's Best range of nutritional supplements. We manufacture most of our range ourselves and sell direct to you saving costs and passing the savings on to you.

When you order Prostex we will send you a copy of our 60 page catalogue with details of all the products in our range (plus a \$5.00 voucher towards your next purchase).

Full Money Back Guarantee

We are so confident that you will be pleased with this product that if for any reason you are not entirely satisfied with it after 3 months of taking it we will be happy to give you a full refund. Orders normally despatched within 24 hours of receipt.

Please send me 3 month's supply of Prostex at the introductory price of £15.90 (plus £5 to cover post and order processing). I enclose a cheque/PO for £16.90 made payable to Nature's Best Health Products Ltd, or please debit my:

Access/Visa Card no.

Expiry Date Cardholder's Signature

Name Mr/Ms/Ms

Address

Postcode

180 CAPSULES

07892 552150

Access or Visa cardholders

NATURE'S BEST

The UK's largest mail order supplier of nutritional supplements

1 Lushbury Road, Tisbury, Wiltshire, Bath, BA2 2SQ

VERY EARLY MUSIC.

NOW RADIO 3 STARTS THE DAY ONE HOUR EARLIER. JOIN ANDREW MCGREGOR AND THE ON AIR TEAM FROM 6AM. MONDAY TO FRIDAY.

30-10-1995

Quentin Letts reports from New York on the fiftieth anniversary of the stewardesses' union

'We were the glamour people'

I used to be "Hi! I'm Nancy, fly me" as the gin trolley wobbled down the aisle five minutes after take-off and the DC-10 droned towards cruising altitude. American businessmen would select an airline on the prettiness of its hostesses, and smile appreciatively when the better endowed girls held out both arms to indicate emergency exits.

But the glamour has faded. High heels are no longer worn in-flight, the catering now seldom extends beyond a packet of nuts, and America's airline cabin staff are organised and ready to use their collective muscle. They have become the miners of the air.

Their trade union, the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, this week celebrates its fiftieth birthday. It falls at a time of unprecedented growth but reduced profit margins and plainer service. Some 100,000 Americans now earn a living as flight attendants (it was only 57,000 in 1980), but the hours are long, the job is less fun, and their standing in American life has changed. Subsonic travel's glamorous adornments have become airborne safety officers.

The growth in numbers can be attributed to the deregulation of American airlines in the late Seventies, which allowed many smaller carriers to set up in business and, through competition, reduced fares on many routes. Two consequences were that airlines did not spend so much on frills, and flying became an affordable option for a wider group of people. Modern airline staff tell horror stories about some passengers. A recent survey of employees at Northwest, Southwest and TWA described outbreaks of disgraceful

behaviour. One man threw a plate of fish at stewardess Lori Roster when she told him that, sorry, she had run out of the pasta option. The denizens of economy class have also proved hungry litigants, be it suing when luggage drops out of overhead bins or trying to jolt an attendant's arm in the hope that hot coffee will be spilled and hefty compensation ensue from the scalding. Some airlines now serve coffee that is tepid to avoid such trouble.

Plainly, we have come some distance from the days when all male passengers dressed like Cary Grant, all women wore hats and carried handbags, and the captain addressed the passengers as "ladies and gentlemen" rather than "you folks".

It was in the Sixties that the term "stewardess" yielded to "flight attendant" and airlines started to drop some of the strict requirements made of cabin staff. One of these was a compulsory retirement age of 32, and a bar on stewardesses marrying. Plumpness was also forbidden, and, until last year, one airline retained a weight restriction for stewardesses. For instance, a woman of 5ft 5in, if less than 34 years old, was not meant to weigh more than 135lb. For women up to 35, this maximum weight became 144lb.

The Association of Professional Flight Attendants has chafed away at its members' conditions. It negotiated on those high heels, and airlines eventually accepted that heels need be worn in airport concourses only, not on the plane. The association has bargained airlines over air quality on jets—it is cheaper to reduce the intake of fresh air, but that is not good for attendants' health. Another area of concern has been



Delta's first flight attendant, Laura Wizarik, in 1940; five years later they had a union

cabin crew's feet. All that standing up plays havoc with the soles.

There have been more serious developments, such as assaults on stewardesses by passengers. These have happened on budget and youth-market airlines whose attendants wear gym shoes and shorts and are encouraged to

sit alongside passengers and chat. "The trouble is, these attendants do not look as authoritative as they used to," says the association's Jill Gallagher. "The new uniforms are comfortable but they can lead to problems."

It was a different story in the Forties, when Edith Lauterbach was a stewardess

with United Airlines and, one day, found herself looking after a plane load which included 21 sailors just back from the war. In the course of that DC-3 flight to Denver, she recalls, every single sailor proposed to her, separately. Every offer was graciously turned down. "We were the glamour people, I suppose,

with elegant uniforms," says Miss Lauterbach, who recalls that in war-rattled America she would often be given presents of chocolate, scent or stockings by admiring GIs. "It is harder work now, but modern attendants are paid well," Miss Lauterbach says. Pay, which currently averages about £23,300 a year, was the driving force when she and four stewardess colleagues founded the association in 1945. Some of the women are getting together in California this week to mark the success of their organisation, which only last week secured a 17 per cent pay rise for a group of attendants and, in 1993, organised a strike at American Airlines which shocked the business. A more recent dispute at Alaska Airlines has also seen withdrawal of labour, followed by an improved contract offer.

Miss Lauterbach recalls that in her day most of the women in the business came from middle-class homes where the father was probably of managerial rank and disapproved of strikes. "It was hard to sign up some of the girls," she says. The founder of United, William Patterson, regarded stewardesses in an almost paternal manner. "We were supposed to work for a couple of years. Then he expected us to get married to some nice young man," she says.

Mid-air safety training was non-existent, and there were no male cabin attendants. But there was that certain chic which attracted itself to air travel. People still had wonder in their eyes, but as that wonder has receded, so has the flair of in-flight service. "The job is now less enjoyable," concedes Ms Gallagher. "Attendants feel they do not have as much time to get to know the passengers." Mind you, given the ill-mannered passengers you tend to get in the air these days, that may not be such a bad thing.

AMNESTY WEEK 15-22 OCTOBER



Goran was one of the first people in the former Yugoslavia to experience the nightmare of racial hatred. He never lived to tell the tale. Or did he?

Somehow you can tell just by looking at Goran that he was unlikely to be a desperado. He worked as an agricultural engineer in the small town of Vukovar, which before the conflict had a multi-ethnic population.

In November 1991, the town was overrun by Serb paramilitaries. Goran and his mother hid with other terrified townsfolk in a large cellar.

But the paramilitaries dragged them out and took them to a 'clearing centre' where people of different religions and ethnic groups were made to stand apart. And where women were separated from the men.

This heartless "selection" was the last time Goran's mother Ivanka saw her son. He was taken away in what was the first mass "disappearance" of former Yugoslavia.

Ivanka prays that her son is still alive and has tried without success to find out what became of him.

Since Goran vanished into the smoke of war, tens of thousands of other people in former Yugoslavia have simply "disappeared", leaving their families with an agony of hope and despair that can never die.

This is why Amnesty International works in Bosnia and other countries with families of those who have "disappeared". Please help.

You can do it by joining Amnesty International or by sending us a donation today.

Today is Thursday 19 October.
How many more days,
how many more deaths,
before you join us?

I wish to become a member of Amnesty International.
I enclose: £21 Individual ☐ £27 Family ☐
£7.50 Student ☐ Under 22 ☐ Claimant ☐ Senior Citizen ☐
I wish to donate: £500 ☐ £250 ☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ £10 ☐
Other: _____ I enter my Access/Visa/Mastercard No: _____

Total: _____ Signed: _____
Card valid from: _____ Expires: _____ D53
If paying by credit card give address where you receive your credit card bill.

Mr/Ms _____ Surname: _____
PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS
Address: _____

Country: _____ Town: _____
Postcode: _____

If you do not want to receive information about mailings from sympathetic organisations please tick this box: ☐

To join or make a donation, please call:
0345 611 116
Calls will be charged at local rates.

To Dept: AA, Amnesty International United Kingdom
Section, FREEPOST, London EC1B 1HE.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

The racing driver will soon be patrolling a new beat, as Giles Coren discovers

Why Nigel Mansell wants to be Special

Nigel Mansell always wanted to be a policeman. You could tell by the moustache and the chunky demeanour. It is easy to imagine him flexing his knees and saying "ello, 'ello, 'ello". For Mansell is a throwback to the days when robbers wore striped shirts and carried bags marked "swag".

Thus it was a great coup for a moustache government when Britain's greatest racing driver of the modern age, and a Tory to boot, was sworn in as a special constable in Exeter yesterday, responding to recent calls for 10,000 new recruits.

The organisation has indeed seen better days. It was in 1973 that an Act of Parliament first allowed local JPs to appoint special constables, and by 1848 the Government could call on 170,000 Specials to police the Chartist upheavals. A similar number turned out during the Fenian alarm of the 1860s. But numbers have fallen from 130,000 at the turn of this century to only 20,000 today.

Such a high-profile recruit can only help the cause, as Mansell joins a short but distinguished list of Specials that includes agriculture minister Douglas Hogg, former Treasury minister Jonathan Aitken, and Rillington Place murderer John Christie. The appointment of Christie tended to enforce the old music hall refrain that "you can't trust a Special like an old time copper".

It has already been established that Mansell will not be bringing his formidable driving skills to the force. But, as the Commandant of the Special Constables in Devon and Cornwall, Max Andrews, says: "Mansell will not be a special Special, just a Special."

Why, then, is he doing it? "He is expressing his desire to serve the community," the Commandant says. "He is someone who is prepared to stand up and be counted, which is all we require from a recruit. That, and their spare time."

But won't there be problems with his celebrity? "By the time he actually goes out on patrol," Mr Andrews says, "people will have forgotten all about it. They may not even recognise him. At the moment, kids are probably going up to every policeman in the country and asking him if he is Nigel Mansell." This, as we already know, is because all policemen look like Nigel Mansell.

The same cannot be said of Elvis Presley. But the King was indeed a sort of voluntary policeman. An obsessive collector of police badges, the only way he could procure a badge of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs was by joining it. In a famous meeting with President Nixon, a badge was sent for, and Elvis became an honorary deputy.

Mansell is not a known collector. It is more likely that he saw the story of Mike Carr, the teacher and special constable who was instrumental in recapturing the Parkhurst escapees in January, and dreamt of glories beyond the race track.

At any rate, there is one thing for which he is particularly well qualified: the delivery of every traffic cop's favourite line.

Thus motorists warmly anticipate the day when they are waved down for speeding on a busy high street, and a friendly moustached face leans down to the open window to inquire: "Who do you think you are, Nigel Mansell?"



Special constable Nigel Mansell

**—YOU—
CAN'T BUY
BETTER**

DULUX INSPIRATIONS
VINYL MATT, SILK OR
SOFT SHEEN EMULSION
2.5 Litres

WAS £12.49
£10.49
NOW *B&Q it!*

WHY PAY POTS FOR PAINT!

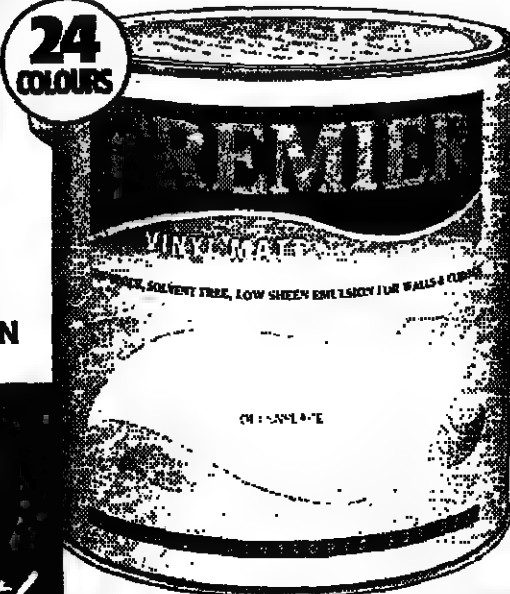


DULUX NATURALS VINYL MATT,
SILK OR SOFT SHEEN EMULSION
2.5 Litres

WAS £12.49
£10.49
NOW *B&Q it!*

DULUX NATURALS VINYL MATT,
SILK OR SOFT SHEEN EMULSION
2.5 Litres

WAS £12.49
£10.49
NOW *B&Q it!*



WAS £10.49
£8.99
NOW *B&Q it!*

*You can do it
when you B&Q it!*

B&Q

OPENING HOURS Monday to Saturday
Most stores 9am - 6pm, Sunday 10am - 5pm (where permitted)
Scotland & Northern Ireland 9am - 6pm
(B&Q menu closed). Certain store hours can vary,
please phone your nearest store to confirm.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST D.I.Y. CHAIN -
FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE PHONE 0181 466 4166
Sales shown are approximate. Prices applicable to
B&Q Supercentres. Offers subject to availability.
Please phone to check before travelling.
See in store for details of our Price Promise.



NUNN FOR NATO

A chance to break with old habits and rebuild Nato's strength

Whichever way the Belgian Parliament votes today, Willy Claes must either resign as Nato Secretary-General or be pushed through the exit and back to the morass of Belgian politics whence he came. His staying can only damage Nato further. As Mr Claes confronts his past — clouded by allegations of corruption, forgery and fraud related to arms contracts — Nato leaders need to cast a steadier eye on the alliance's future than they did when they appointed him 13 months ago. Nato is poised for tough challenges in Bosnia; ahead lie grand strategic decisions, on enlargement and on relations with Russia. Mr Claes's successor needs to be of exceptional stature and experience.

Nato will not find the right candidate unless its political masters first shed some bad old habits. Mr Claes got the job for all the wrong reasons: because it was considered the "turn" of a small country, because of the convention that Nato's top administrator is a European — and because another Belgian, Jean-Luc Dehaene, had failed in his bid to head the European Commission. Ministers got what they deserved for treating the leadership of the world's most important military alliance as a political consolation prize.

Depressingly, Nato governments appear set to repeat last year's mistakes. They say that they want a political heavyweight. Yet the same names are circulating as last year. The only two who would carry weight where it most matters, in Washington and Moscow, are Douglas Hurd and Volker Ruehe, the German Defence Minister, but neither is thought to want the job. The rest are from small Nato countries: Rüdiger Lubbers, the former Prime Minister of The Netherlands and seemingly eternal candidate for international positions, the EU's Hans van den Broek and even the lacklustre Norwegian politician, Thorvald Stoltenberg. The front-runner, Denmark's Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, inspires only lukewarm enthusiasm — and none in France, which is furious over Denmark's opposition to French nuclear tests.

The absurdity of this situation is that only one obstacle stands between Nato and an outstanding new Secretary-General: the old

taboo against an American. Ministers say that merit should come before nationality: now is the time to show that they mean it.

All other things being equal, the preference for a European is understandable for two reasons. The first is the equally firm tradition that Americans hold the two top military positions in Nato, that of Supreme Allied Commander and the Southern European command. The second is the French insistence that Nato must not be US-dominated, although this concern could be met by open selection for the Southern European command as well as the Secretary-Generalship.

All things, however, are not equal. There is at least one possible American who would do more to strengthen Nato's strategic vision and its Atlanticist bedrock than all the available Europeans put together. The most obvious is Senator Sam Nunn, the ranking Democrat on the congressional Armed Services Committee who recently announced that he will not seek a fifth term.

Since the post-Vietnam days, Senator Nunn has been Nato's most formidable, although not uncritical, defender on the Hill. He has a reputation for expertise in military matters, for independence of mind and for the ability to pick his issues carefully and probe deeply. He has a talent for reaching across party lines to build agreement on defence policy. He has given deep study to relations with Moscow. On enlargement, the other great issue before Nato, he is a realist who is determined that nothing should weaken Nato as a military, rather than a "political or psychological" alliance.

Support for such a break with precedent cannot be built overnight and ministers will be tempted, in view of the imminent Bosnia operation, to fill the post immediately. They should think twice. Nato can survive a temporary vacuum better than another weak appointment. In Bill Clinton, America has the least Atlanticist President since the war. Without a firm US commitment to European security, Nato has no future. Sam Nunn could bridge the widening Atlantic. Britain should set out to persuade Nato to beat a path to the senator's door.

GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE REFORM

Opposition to Mackay's proposals is misguided

The row that is brewing in the Conservative Party over the reform of divorce law is based upon a fundamental misconception. Those who oppose Lord Mackay of Clashfern's proposed Bill are convinced that it will make divorce easier. In at least three-quarters of cases, it will actually make divorce harder. There is a danger of a sensible, compassionate, family-orientated measure being derailed by a group that seems wilfully to misunderstand the nature of the proposals.

The current system of divorce law has nothing to recommend it. Although it provides for a two-year separation before husbands and wives can legally part, this provision is used by very few couples. The vast majority, 75 per cent, instead go for "quickie" divorces. As long as they can prove unreasonable behaviour or adultery, they can win a divorce in as little as three to four months. Usually the divorce goes through before the finances are sorted out and before agreement has been reached over the children.

The result is that couples who begin divorce proceedings in a relatively amicable mood can rarely avoid ending them in rancour. Accusations fly across the courtroom in an attempt to persuade the bench that one partner's behaviour was unreasonable or that another's was unfaithful. The intervention of lawyers acting for each side is bound to inflame the acrimony, given the adversarial nature of their job.

Some couples go to their lawyers still unsure about whether they really want a divorce. But the legal system carries them along, like a wave in the sea, towards inevitable parting. A study of divorces by Davis and Murch in 1988 found that 51 per cent of divorced men and 29 per cent of divorced women would have preferred to have stayed

married. The authors reported that "some couples have sought legal advice in response to what they regard as a marital crisis rather than a breakdown" and that "many people simply do not know whether their marriage is at an end; indeed they may be using the legal system as a way of finding out."

The advantage of the Lord Chancellor's proposals is that they allow for a compulsory year before divorce proceedings could start. During this pause, for reflection, couples would be encouraged to use the services of a mediator, who would seek to calm tempers rather than stir up animosity between the two sides. Some couples might well decide not to go through with the divorce. Others would at least be able to settle arguments about money and children before they finally went to court. A divorce would not be granted until these matters were agreed.

The Lord Chancellor cannot legislate away conflict between two people. But the current system seems to legislate for conflict. The proposed Bill would lengthen the average time taken for a divorce to be granted and would remove much of the confrontation that currently takes place. Most important, it would put children first.

John Patten, the former Education Secretary, has led the opposition to this Bill, claiming that every change to divorce law has increased the number of subsequent divorces. That is because every change to the divorce law has made divorce easier. This change would make it harder for most people and would make them ponder before doing something that they might later regret. There is every reason why the Government should allow a free vote on divorce. But no MP should oppose this humane measure on misunderstood grounds.

RARA AVIS

When 'Connie' met 'Archie': old birds from the Jurassic age

Birds, believe it or not, are the best-known animal group: the taxonomy of their living species and subspecies is considered by zoologists to be fuller than that of mammals and reptiles. But curiously, their fossil record is the poorest by far, perhaps because so many of the earliest birds are thought to have perished at sea. Imagine the excitement among paleo-twinners, therefore, at the discovery in a remote Chinese province of fossilised avian remains from the Jurassic age.

As a team of Chinese and American scholars writes in today's issue of *Nature*, the latest fossil provides evidence of a bird-type which is almost as old as the oldest so far encountered. That title belongs of course to the *Archaeopteryx lithographica* — as every scrapbook-wielding schoolchild of another age would have been able to tell you. The venerable "Archie" now has company: and with the Linnean poetry at which all good scientists are skilled, the new old bird has been named *Confuciusornis sanctus*, or the Holy Confucius Bird. Let us call her "Connie" for short.

The discovery of Connie in northeastern China, however, seems to have queerer Archie's flight-path a bit. He, poor fossil, may still be the bird who goes back furthest, so far as our textbooks know, but Connie's uni-

covering suggests that there are likely to be other, yet undiscovered birds, which predated Archie by many years. What a loss of dignity there would be in a decline from the oldest bird to mere quondam.

Connie, although only a few years younger than Archie, was a vastly better-designed sort of bird — a *Spizella*, if it were, to Archie's *Sopwith Camel*. Doctors Hou, Zhou, Martin and Feduccia — the *Nature* bird quartet — suggest cautiously that this could be explained in one of two ways. Either birds like Connie evolved from primitive to less primitive at a pace more rapid than the evolution which occurred in other life-forms or — and this is where hearts will break or leap — there was "a long but undiscovered pre-Archaeopteryx episode in avianity".

Commonsense reasoning (based on an observation of the speed at which mammals evolved, say, or plants did) suggests that those who bet on paleo-matters would be taking a risk with the first option: "an unexpected, rapid departure from the primitive avian condition to a more derived morphology" does not make an attractive scientific argument. There must have been an older bird. Archie's days on the highest perch, we fear, are numbered. Blame it all on Connie.

Prisons chief and the Home Secretary's responsibilities

From the General Secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants

Sir, Your leading article today, "Our of prison: Howard sacks his executive agent", states that the departure of Derek Lewis as Director-General of the Prison Service yesterday was "as inevitable as it was overdue".

Mr Lewis has met every performance criterion set by this Home Secretary and achieved a reduction of 75 per cent in the escape rates from UK prisons. Deplorable as the outbreaks from Whitemoor and Parkhurst were, Sir John Latham is right to acknowledge that no prison system can guarantee to keep all those inside who should stay there. No Home Secretary has ever secured the enormous resources necessary.

However, this Home Secretary has sought to embrace the credit for all the achievements of the Prison Service, whilst distancing himself from all the failures. He has done it through two principal means. He claims, first of all, that there is a clear division between his responsibility for the policy of the Prison Service, and the Director-General's for the operation of the service. He further claims that his responsibilities, in any case, only extend as far as being accountable to the House of Commons by explaining what happens in the Prison Service.

On both counts he is incorrect. Questions of Procedure for Ministers, published by the Cabinet Office in 1992, makes it clear that he, and all ministers, are both responsible for the conduct of their departments and accountable for those departments.

So Mr Howard, whether he acknowledges it or not, is responsible for both the policy and the conduct of the Prison Service. Moreover, the division

he has sought to draw between the two is self-evidently untenable. Prison Service policy must be obvious to everyone. It is to keep those who are convicted inside prisons. We do not need a Home Secretary to tell us that, but we do need one to tell us how he proposes to do it.

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH SYMONS,
General Secretary,
The Association of First Division Civil Servants,
2 Cannon Street, SW1,
October 17.

From Mr Robin Estridge

Sir, As a prison board of visitors member for well over twenty years, I find it extraordinary that the Home Secretary can avoid responsibility for the present state of the Prison Service. Frequent changes of minister, frequent changes of policy, have led to complete confusion of endeavour. Only the loyalty and professionalism of the Prison Service staff has avoided a catastrophe.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN ESTRIDGE,
Whins Brow, Macclesfield Road,
Alderley Edge, Cheshire,
October 17.

From Mr Edward A. Hackford

Sir, Pharaoh asked them to make bricks without straw. Moses pointed out such a policy would affect productivity and quality. Pharaoh dismissed it as an operational, not a policy, issue.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD HACKFORD,
7 Homewood Road,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Attempt to cut crime with tougher sentencing policies

From His Honour Joseph Dean

Sir, It seems unwise to reject out of hand Michael Howard's proposals (reports, October 13) to put a bit more backbone into the criminal justice system — so long the victim of the penal reform movement.

Between 1975 and 1987, when I sat as a Crown Court judge, we were summoned regularly to a suburban police station for a ritual brainwashing. This would include an address by a prominent member of the penological enlightenment, urging us not to send defendants to prison or, if we did, only for the shortest time.

Judging by their regular reduction of sentences, this objective was then supported by the Court of Appeal. At one point we received a message from that court that all sentences of up to 18 months were going to be halved, but we should not be dismayed.

The same objective was promoted by a succession of Criminal Justice Acts, culminating in the notorious 1991 Act, which threatened to put the criminal courts out of business and had to be hurriedly repealed. The Home Office made its contribution to these initiatives by enlarging remission and parole and easing the pains and penalties of prison life.

It was all well meant. But it has not worked. For whatever may be the mixture of reasons, crime has increased beyond all imagining. In this state of affairs, serious proposals to try to improve the position should be considered seriously, even at the risk of some bonfire of judicial vanities.

It is hardly realistic to assume that criminals will be deterred, and only deterred, by the likelihood of being

caught, when they (like the public at large) believe that the likely consequence of being caught will be a sentence that is manifestly non-detering.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH DEAN,
The Hall,
West Brabourne, Ashford, Kent,
October 14.

From Mr Neville Goldrein

Sir, There is a popular and widely-held misconception that most convicted criminals are sent to prison, and many people are therefore surprised that after suffering that penalty a substantial proportion re-offend.

During the 1970s and 1980s, when I sat as a deputy circuit judge, I found that the vast majority of offenders had been through the gamut of cautions, probation, community service, fines, and a good deal of counselling before they were eventually incarcerated. I have no doubt that this is still the case.

During the course of all those stages the one-off offenders, the occasional delinquents, the "spur-of-the-moment" offenders, are sifted out. Many of them never re-offend; they have had their "frightener" and that is a sufficient deterrent. Some of them need to have this experience more than once, going up the punishment ladder, before learning a lesson.

That is why the proportion of recidivists is higher than people expect. The offender has become accustomed to a life with criminal episodes, all else seems to have failed, no advice or counselling seems to have been heeded, and so he is locked up. The threat of prison has not been, in many cases, even a deterrent. It is merely a gamble

From Mr Philip M. Lidgate

Sir, Your leading article calls for more communication within the Prison Service. The Learmont graphic on the front page of your earlier editions, comparing the height of the pile of correspondence received by our prisons in three months with that of Ben Nevis, would indicate there is already far too much.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP M. LIDGATE,
Flat 2, 43 Branksome Wood Road,
Bournemouth, Dorset,
October 17.

From Sir Ian Morrow

Sir, In the corridors of power it is whispered: "The minister must be credible whatever the cost."

Yours truly,
IAN MORROW,
2 Albert Terrace Mews, NW1,
October 17.

From Mr Peter Tarrant-Willis

Sir, If power without responsibility is the prerogative of the harlot down the ages, what is power without blame?

Yours faithfully,
PETER TARRANT-WILLIS,
108 Mill Lane, NW6.

From Mrs Eslyn Craven

Sir, I think Jack Straw is very foolish to press for the resignation of Michael Howard (report, October 17). Doesn't he realise that Howard is the Labour Party's biggest asset?

Yours sincerely,
ESLYN CRAVEN,
Keepers Cottage,
Lanrick, Doune, Perthshire,
October 17.

Qualities needed for modern hymns

From Canon Michael Saward

Sir, St Paul distinguished "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" (Ephesians v, 19 and Colossians iii, 16) but, regrettably, today few people seem to be aware of the difference. The new Methodist book (report and leading article, October 14) is, for the most part, a book of songs for small children. It doesn't purport to be a hymn-book.

A recent definition says that "a hymn is a series of connected verses, usually addressed in worship to one or all of the Persons of the Holy Trinity, logically developing a Christian theme, usually in metrical and rhyming form, to a tune capable of being sung by a congregation". Not much room for moo-cows there.

There are at least 150 modern hymns of real quality which have been written since 1960. As a hymn-book editor I have read well over 2,000 modern texts, no more than 10 per cent of which have any real merit. Perhaps only 20 will last for a century. Quality hymn-writing has always been rare, and every known hymn-book has sub-standard hymns.

Thus the issue is not a confrontation between traditional hymns versus modern songs, but whether or not churches and worshippers will learn to accept the validity of St Paul's valuable distinction and to seek outstanding examples of all three categories.

Incidentally, it wasn't John Wesley who wrote 6,000 hymns. It was his younger brother Charles.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SAWARD
(Canon Treasurer,
St Paul's Cathedral),
6 Amen Court, EC4,
October 14.

From the Team Vicar, Tenbury Wells Team Ministry

Sir, Your leader reminds me of a hymn which was known as the Spinner's Prayer. It contained the line: "Give me a man - Give me a man - Give me a man in the sky."

Yours faithfully,
COLIN V. HUTT,
Old Yew Tree Farmhouse,
Ashford Bowdler,
Ludlow, Shropshire.

Veterinary troubles

From Dr Peter D. Rossdale

Sir, Clinical teaching of undergraduates at university veterinary schools (letter, October 16) depends upon the very substantial resources required for the handling of cases, especially those of large animals — resources which are now becoming increasingly available in the private sector, staffed by young, highly trained and competent clinicians.

If this teaching were to be made available in the veterinary hospitals of the private sector, particularly in the fields of equine and canine medicine and surgery, the resources now devoted to maintaining hospitals run by university veterinary schools could be channelled into the teaching facilities of academic science and research, and undergraduates would be exposed to front-line rather than referral conditions.

Yours faithfully,
PETER D. ROSSDALE,
Beaufort Cottage Laboratories,
High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk,
October 16.

Ursula Wyndham

From Mr David Liddle

Sir, In the mid-1970s when I was responsible for the public library in Petworth, in Sussex, complaints had been received that books of local interest, particularly those referring to the Wyndham family, had been defaced by written comments in the margins. The perpetrator, who took no steps to conceal her identity, was the Honourable Ursula Wyndham (obituary, October 13).

For my confrontation with the lady I had to negotiate on foot a long driveway through a field of goats. Our conversation took place with her leaning through an upstairs window and myself on the drive below. Her defence was robust. She had a right and a duty to correct statements concerning her family.

My response, which was the best I could think of at the time, was that she should write her own book and not deface the work of others. There were no further complaints and Ursula Wyndham's first published success occurred some years later.

Yours faithfully,
D. W. LIDDLE,
37 Grove Avenue,
Coombe Dingle, Bristol, Avon,
October 13.

Short rations

From Air Commodore J. G. DeAth, RAF (retd)

Sir, Computer discourtesy and the incapability of current systems to deal with a third initial (letters, September 23, October 2, 10, 14) could be less important to some of us than their inability to produce an apostrophe.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DE'ATH,
Jesus College, Oxford,
October 14.

Business letters, page 29
Sports letters, page 44

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

JOHN WALKER

tutors then introduced him to Donald (later Sir Donald) Wolfit, and Johnson joined his company in 1942.

He played a number of Shakespearean parts in repertory throughout the 1940s, the most notable being the Fool to Wolfit's King Lear. They were a well-matched pair, and neither of them upstaged the other, which in the case of

beginning to look decidedly passé.

Pantomimes and summer seasons followed, and occasionally he would appear in his own adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, in which he played Scrooge. The final twist to his career came in 1988 when a chance meeting with the Irish poet and playwright Patrick Galvin led to a sugges-

the Irish actor Michael MacLiammoir, which he thought he could not follow. However, Galvin managed to persuade him that, as in MacLiammoir's performance, the voice was the essential part of the show, and *The Importance of Being Oscar* opened at the Pavilion Theatre, Brighton, later in 1988 to ecstatic reviews.

Johnson was regularly invited onto BBC Radio 2, often together with his brother Teddy, to talk about Wolfit or his history of variety.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen, whom he married five years ago.

LORD HOME FACES CRISIS FORMING GOVERNMENT

From Our Political Correspondent

The Conservative Government were still caught in crisis when Lord Home left 10 Downing Street at 11.6 p.m. last night. At the end of a long day of tension and suspense Mr. Butler, Mr. Mandling and Lord Hailsham, who had been the three rivals for the succession, still had reservations about serving in the Administration which Lord Home had been invited by the Queen to try to form just after noon. But just after 10.30 p.m. it became clear that in a series of separate and collective interviews the reservations had slightly lessened.

He has not yet kissed hands on appointment as Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury. This must be properly regarded as immensely significant. It shows that Lord Home, unlike other Prime Minister designate men Mr. Bonar Law in 1922, could not feel secure enough of his position, when the invitation came, to inform the Queen immediately that he accepted the charge to form an Administration. He undertook to make the attempt. But last night reliable

ON THIS DAY

October 19, 1963



The resignation of Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister because of ill-health led by "normal processes of consultation" to the appointment of successor of Lord Home, who died earlier this month.

Conservative backbench opinion understood in private discussions with some of the principals that Lord Hailsham considered refusing to serve, Mr. Butler and Mr. Mandling reserved their positions, and Mr. Macleod's intentions were still not clear. Speculation also turned on the position, in the new circumstances, of Mr. Erskine Powell, the Minister of Health, and also Sir Edward Boyle, Minister of Education, who, with Lord Dilhorne, the Lord Chancellor, was one of the last ministerial visitors to 10 Downing Street late last night.

Lord Home began the task of trying to form

an Administration to succeed Mr. Macmillan's knowing that his three rival candidates had been surprised and bitterly disappointed by the fact that he had been made, and that a group of influential Cabinet Ministers had discussed into the early hours of the morning how Mr. Macmillan's decision to put forward his name could be changed.

Within two hours of being called to Buckingham Palace to hear the Queen's invitation (on Mr. Macmillan's advice), Lord Home went to 10 Downing Street to begin a series of separate interviews with his three defeated rivals for the draft.

Lord Home began to be seen as a compromise candidate for the party leadership a fortnight ago by only a few members of the party hierarchy. It is arguable that a widespread determination to stop Lord Hailsham and Mr. Butler prepared the way for Lord Home's eventual choice. But in the two or three days before Mr. Macmillan informed the Queen of the party consensus that he would resign the Cabinet and the rank and file members in the Commons about the wisdom of selecting an aristocrat.

In this way parliamentary opinion moved increasingly behind Mr. Butler. The first rumours of Lord Home's selection caused first incredulity and then consternation . . .

© TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1995. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd, at Virginia Street, London, EC2A 4DF. Telephone 0171-787 3100.

ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

Economics: is Robert Lucas talking bunkum?

TRAVEL 40, 41

Air travellers to Sydney pay for soundproofing

SPORT 42-48

Steve Douce: seeking a new mountain to climb

A TALE OF TWO EMPIRES
Books 38, 39

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19 1995

Bank in hostile \$10bn offer

Wells Fargo launches record US bid

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

WELLS FARGO, the San Francisco-based bank, has launched the largest takeover bid in US banking history with a \$10.1 billion offer for First Interstate, a rival in Los Angeles.

The bid is the most dramatic development so far in the merger boom sweeping through the US banking industry, which has produced deals worth more than \$35 billion so far this year.

The offer outstrips the merger between Chase Manhattan and Chemical Bank announced in August and is unusual in being the first hostile bid in the sector since the late 1980s. If it goes through the deal will create one of the top ten banks in America. The combined bank would have assets of about \$107 billion, making it the second largest in California, although it would still be only half the size of Bank of America.

Frank Sotomayor, banking analyst at SCB Warburg in New York, said: "First Interstate

want to fight this, but they are up against the best bank management in the country."

Wells Fargo is offering a 20 per cent premium to First Interstate's share price in an all-cash offer, but First Interstate immediately rejected the proposal as unwelcome and inadequate. William Siert, First Interstate's chairman, said: "We are deeply disappointed that Wells Fargo would take this unprovoked action." He said his board would consider the offer.

Mr Siert admitted that his bank had already been in strategic talks with Wells Fargo as well as several other banks. Wells Fargo is believed to have launched its bid to forestall any other deals First Interstate may have been contemplating. Its shares are riding high since it announced a 20 per cent surge in profits for the third quarter on Tuesday.

Wells Fargo believes there are cost savings of at least \$100 million to be made from combining the two banks. By

acquiring First Interstate, which has operations in 13 western US states, it would also expand its own franchise, which is concentrated only in California.

Bank mergers this year have reached record levels. With a relaxation in rules restricting interstate banking, US banks are rushing to consolidate within their regions to resist competition from outside. They are also under pressure to cut costs and spend heavily on new technology. Most bankers believe only the biggest banks will survive in these conditions.

Virtually all the mergers have been made on a friendly basis, but if Wells Fargo is successful hostile bids could become more common.

First Interstate has been an active participant in the merger trend, making 17 acquisitions in the last two years. With assets of \$55 billion it is the 14th largest bank in the US. After several rocky years, it has started to perform strongly and now has one of the best retail banking franchises in the US.

Wells Fargo's management is even more aggressive and highly regarded. One of its most profitable deals was to buy the rump of Crocker National Bank from Midland Bank in the 1980s when the Midland withdrew after its disastrous foray into the Californian market.

Although slightly smaller than First Interstate, Wells Fargo's policy of steady expansion while turning in consistently good profits puts it in a strong position as a bidder.



Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB Mining, says long gas contracts freeze out coal plants

Coal chief seeks gas review

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

LONG-TERM contracts between power stations and electricity companies push up costs to consumers and discriminate against Britain's coal industry, Britain's biggest coal producer claims.

Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB Mining, is calling on Stephen Littlechild, director-general of electricity supply, to review contracts between developers of gas-fired

plants and the regional electricity supply companies.

In a speech reminiscent of concerns raised by British Coal before it was privatised, Mr Budge said: "Long gas contracts put a stranglehold on the market and freeze out the opportunity for more economic coal-fired generation." He added: "Further gas stations are unnecessary and uneconomic and should only be licensed when it can be demonstrated consumers will benefit from cheaper electricity."

Mr Budge, whose company paid £815 million for British Coal's English mines ten months ago, said that thanks to lower costs, coal from Britain was now a highly competitive fuel. RJB has invested almost £200 million to develop its mines, he said.

He said the group's result was "excellent" set against the backdrop of a tough retail climate, no contribution from new stores and a static housing market. He added that the "prolonged, scorching summer was obviously unhelpful".

The final dividend was lifted from 4.9p to 5.65p, making a total of 8.3p (7.2p). The final dividend, due December 15, is being paid from earnings of 16.6p a share. The special payout is due on November 20.

Temper, page 28
City Diary, page 29

Unemployment falls to lowest for four years

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government yesterday claimed that the largest monthly fall in unemployment this year was a clear indication that Britain remains on course for sustainable economic growth.

Ministers were delighted that the 27,200 drop in seasonally adjusted unemployment took the number of people out of work and claiming benefit to its lowest level for four years.

Though Whitehall officials were cautious about reading too much into one month's figures, especially given the impact of students over the period, they believe that the slowdown in the rate of decline in unemployment during the summer is over and that jobs recovery is under way anew.

Figures published yesterday by the Central Statistical Office showed that claimant unemployment in September fell to 2,265 million, or 8.1 per cent. The drop—the 25th consecutive monthly fall—takes unemployment to its lowest level since May 1991, and the unemployment rate to its lowest since June of the same year.

It amounts to a cumulative fall since unemployment last peaked, in December 1992, of 713,400, and a fall over the

past year of 297,000. Unemployment fell for both sexes and in every region. Unadjusted unemployment fell 27,960 to 2,232,181.

Whitehall statisticians estimate that the trend in monthly falls in adjusted unemployment is running at between 10,000 and 15,000. They are particularly satisfied with the new figures on claimant count unemployment, which showed a fall of 256,000 over the last year.

Eric Forth, Education and Employment Minister, said: "These figures are further evidence that Britain is firmly on course for sustained, and sustainable, economic growth."

But Harriet Harman, for Labour, said that the Government had "no cause for complacency", adding: "This slowdown in the fall in unemployment is a worrying sign at a time when the recovery should be gaining ground. The Government is still not running the economy in a way that creates enough jobs."

Average earnings growth stayed at 3.25 per cent across the whole economy though earnings increases in production industries rose from 3.5 to 3.75 per cent.

Pennington, page 27

Call for Budget tax cuts as retail sales drop

BY GEORGE SIVELL

RETAIL sales dropped 0.4 per cent year-on-year in September, the first such fall since July 1992.

Analysts said the figures painted a mixed picture of the economy, but the British Retail Consortium responded by calling for Budget tax cuts to ease the burden on consumers. The Institute of Directors said that the Government should consider an interest rate cut if economic growth continues to weaken and inflation remains subdued.

The volume of sales in the high street was unchanged from the August figure, defying City forecasts of a rise from the previous month when sales were depressed by the hot weather.

The City had forecast a rise from August to September of

0.6 per cent, after a 0.8 per cent fall in August. The Treasury sought to blame food prices for yesterday's figures. It suggested that the sharp rise in food prices was responsible for a 1.3 per cent fall in food sales during September.

The more stable quarter-on-quarter comparison, however, still shows a 0.1 per cent fall in the quarter ending in September from the previous three months. Comparison with the same quarter of a year ago, however, reveals a 0.3 per cent rise.

Non-food sales rose 1.3 per cent in September after a 1.9 per cent fall in August. The increases included clothing and footwear and household goods, which all suffered price rises in September.

James May, Director-Gen-

eral of the British Retail Consortium, said: "These figures confirm that there is an economic case for tax cuts in the forthcoming Budget as well as a political one."

He added: "After two years of tax rises, the time has come for the Chancellor to ease the tax burden on consumers. Retailers will be looking for some action on this front in next month's Budget."

Adair Turner, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said that the next move in rates should be down.

However, he added that the CBI was not yet calling for a reduction because it was unclear whether lower rates could be sustained.

Pennington, page 27

Number is up for a town's phone users

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT



Cruickshank "mistake"

FOUR hundred thousand phone users in Reading will be given new numbers from April, just 12 months after Phoneday was supposed to have provided an eightfold increase in number availability nationwide. Plans to introduce a new code and an additional 9 on the front of Reading numbers were confirmed yesterday by Ofcom, the telecoms regulatory body.

Five other cities were given new codes on Phoneday, but Don Cruickshank, the telecoms director-general, said Ofcom had made a mistake in failing to spot a rapid surge in demand for phone lines in Reading. "Arguably, with hindsight, we should have done it [last April]," Mr Cruickshank said. The increased demand was partly caused by the town's success in attracting high-tech industry and British Gas, adopting dial-direct num-

bers when relocating staff. Ofcom took over responsibility for the allocation of phone numbers from BT last year because it had decided allocations gave the company too much information about its competitors. But it said BT gave no warning of the looming problem in Reading and an Ofcom audit of the numbers situation was not completed until after Christmas.

"Code changes have been happening since the 1950s," Mr Cruickshank said. "You just used to get a circular stuffed through your door telling you about it. What has changed is that we are being up-front about the changes and consulting people." From April, the 01734 code for Reading numbers will be supplemented by an alternative code of 0118, which will work when a 9 is added to the

beginning of a local number. After 18 months so-called "parallel running", the existing code will be dropped.

Mr Cruickshank said that because of inefficiencies in the way Britain's phone numbering system works, only 40 per cent of available numbers can be used. Reading is now close to the 40 per cent threshold, and only adding a seventh digit can make additional numbers available. An Ofcom study has identified six other code areas where "less urgent" number shortages are looming: Belfast, Cardiff, inner and outer London, Portsmouth, and Southampton.

Adding a 1 after the first 0 of national dialling codes in April did not change the number of numbers available, but it did create the option of an additional eight billion new numbers in the future.

Founder of DFS to net £60m

BY SARAH BAGNALL

GRAHAM KIRKHAM, founder and chairman of DFS, is set to make about £60 million from the sale of part of the shares his family holds in the furniture group that was floated two years ago.

He will also receive dividend payments worth £8.3 million as a result of the group's decision to pay a special dividend payment of 10p a share on top of a final payment of 5.65p. Mr Kirkham with his wife, son and daughter, holds 51 per cent of the equity but yesterday said he had decided to sell a third of the holding "subject to price".

The sale is likely to be via a placing at a price to be decided over the next few days through discussions with institutions. Normally placings are made at a small discount to the prevailing share price. Yesterday the shares fell 8p to 345p, compared with the flotation price of 160p.

The news of Mr Kirkham's intentions came as he unveiled a 22.7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £26.2 million in the year to July 29. The better than expected result was achieved on sales of £145.1 million, up 7.6 per cent. Mr Kirkham also revealed that, as a result of DFS's growing cash pile, the directors had decided to pay a special dividend. He also indicated that the cash-generative nature of the business could result in a similar move again.

He said the group's result was "excellent" set against the backdrop of a tough retail climate, no contribution from new stores and a static housing market. He added that the "prolonged, scorching summer was obviously unhelpful".

The final dividend was lifted from 4.9p to 5.65p, making a total of 8.3p (7.2p). The final dividend, due December 15, is being paid from earnings of 16.6p a share. The special payout is due on November 20.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET	
FT-SE 100	3593.0 (+30.8)
Yield	3.59%
FT-SE All share	1782.78 (+11.46)
Nickel	17895.57 (-20.63)
New York	
Dow Jones	4786.72 (-7.22)
S&P Composite	588.10 (+1.32)

RATES	
Federal Funds	5 1/8% (5 1/8%)
Long Bond	7 1/8% (7 1/8%)
Yield	6.31% (6.29%)

LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	6 1/8% (6 1/8%)
Life long gilts	10 1/8% (10 1/8%)
Future (3m)	10 1/8% (10 1/8%)

STERLING	
New York	1.5700* (1.5700)
London	
DM	1.5688 (1.5735)
DM	2.2317 (2.2270)
FF	7.3850 (7.3120)
Sfr	1.8118 (1.8062)
Yen	187.58 (187.83)
S index	84.3 (84.3)

DOLLAR	
London	
DM	1.4213* (1.4145)
DM	2.2317* (2.2270)
Sfr	1.1542* (1.1482)
Yen	100.60* (100.63)
S index	84.3 (84.3)

Tokyo close Yen 99.85	
London close	1.5700 (1.5700)
Short 15-day (Jan)	616.00 (n/a)

* denotes midday trading price

FT-SE record

The FT-SE 100 index surged 30.8 points to close at a record high of 3593.0. Dealers said the rise was caused by takeover bid speculation and further gains on Wall Street. Markets, page 28

Marshall's job

Sir Colin Marshall, of British Airways, is set to become the next President of the CBI. He was appointed deputy president yesterday and is expected to take over the top job from Sir Bryan Nicholson, the former chairman of the Post Office, when his two-year term expires next May. Sir Colin Southgate is standing down as deputy CBI chairman. CBI, page 26

TALKING Markets

WORLD SOLUTIONS FOR EXPORT CREDIT MANAGEMENT



Reforms could reduce status of the MMC

Greater powers planned for OFT

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY and GRAHAM SEARJEANT

THE Government is preparing to give the Office of Fair Trading greater investigatory powers, allowing it to clear up more cases without reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Jonathan Evans, the Competition and Consumer Affairs Minister, made clear yesterday that ministers were ready to enhance the powers of the OFT and John Bridgeman, its new Director-General, to act more like a unitary competition authority.

Mr Evans said in a letter to the all-party Trade and Industry Select Committee that he intended to make the OFT "a more effective body able to clear up more cases quickly without recourse to an MMC reference. This would enable the OFT to behave more like a unitary authority in both investigating competition prob-

lems and implementing remedies".

The powers of the MMC would also be changed to give it "a primarily adjudicating role", retaining powers to make decisions when an OFT judgment was contested. Mr Evans, taking up suggestions put forward in July by the trade and industry committee, said that the changes would "require some rebalancing of the roles of the OFT and MMC".

The reform could reduce the MMC to the status of an appeal body in merger cases, the same role it plays in relations between utilities and their regulators. Although the MMC is now headed by Graeme Odgers, a former top businessman, his recommendations reflect its independent judicial status.

Mr Bridgeman, a former



Jonathan Evans, left, and John Bridgeman, of the OFT



Alcan executive, is thought to be sympathetic to the idea that companies should be more free to conduct mergers, provided a *quid pro quo* is given to consumers to offset any loss of competition.

Reforms of the two bodies may be included in next month's Queen's Speech out-

lining legislation for the next session of Parliament. Ministers plan to consult, possibly early next year, over the best ways to implement the changes.

Strengthening of the OFT powers may have implications for increased staff numbers, likely to be resisted by the

Treasury on cost grounds. However, the Trade and Industry Department believes that some staff could be transferred directly from the MMC.

Undertakings to be given in lieu of a reference to the MMC will continue and the Director-General of Fair Trading will still be able to make interim relief orders. The moves will cut the number of cases referred to the MMC.

The move will be seen as a compromise falling short of the merger of the OFT and most of the MMC called for by Sir Bryan Carsberg, the former Director-General of Fair Trading, and since taken up by the Labour Party.

At present, the OFT undertakes preliminary vetting of proposed mergers and takeovers and is encouraged to strike private deals with companies to offset likely damage to competition. If it thinks there is still a *prima facie* case

against a merger, however, it can only recommend the President of the Board of Trade to refer it to the MMC. The MMC then conducts formal hearings and issues a published report to the President, making its judgment on a broad public interest test.

Mr Evans held his first business meeting with the Director-General of Fair Trading yesterday since Mr Bridgeman took office at the start of the month. Mr Bridgeman will be hoping that the Government will also legislate in the coming session of Parliament on the basis of its White Paper on restrictive practices.

The OFT is anxious that uncompetitive behaviour should be made a statutory offence and that it should be given more powers to combat such practices.

Pennington, page 27

CBI leaders say Labour is no longer anti-business

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LEADERS of the Confederation of British Industry acknowledged yesterday for the first time that the Labour Party was now no longer opposed to business in the UK.

While the CBI statement stops well short of any kind of endorsement of the Labour Party led by Tony Blair, it is the furthest Britain's principal business body has yet gone in accepting the extent to which Labour has changed in its attitudes towards business.

Labour and the Conservatives have recently made big attempts to secure business support before the general election — including Labour's BT net deal — and CBI leaders said yesterday after their monthly council meeting that it was "nice to be wooed".

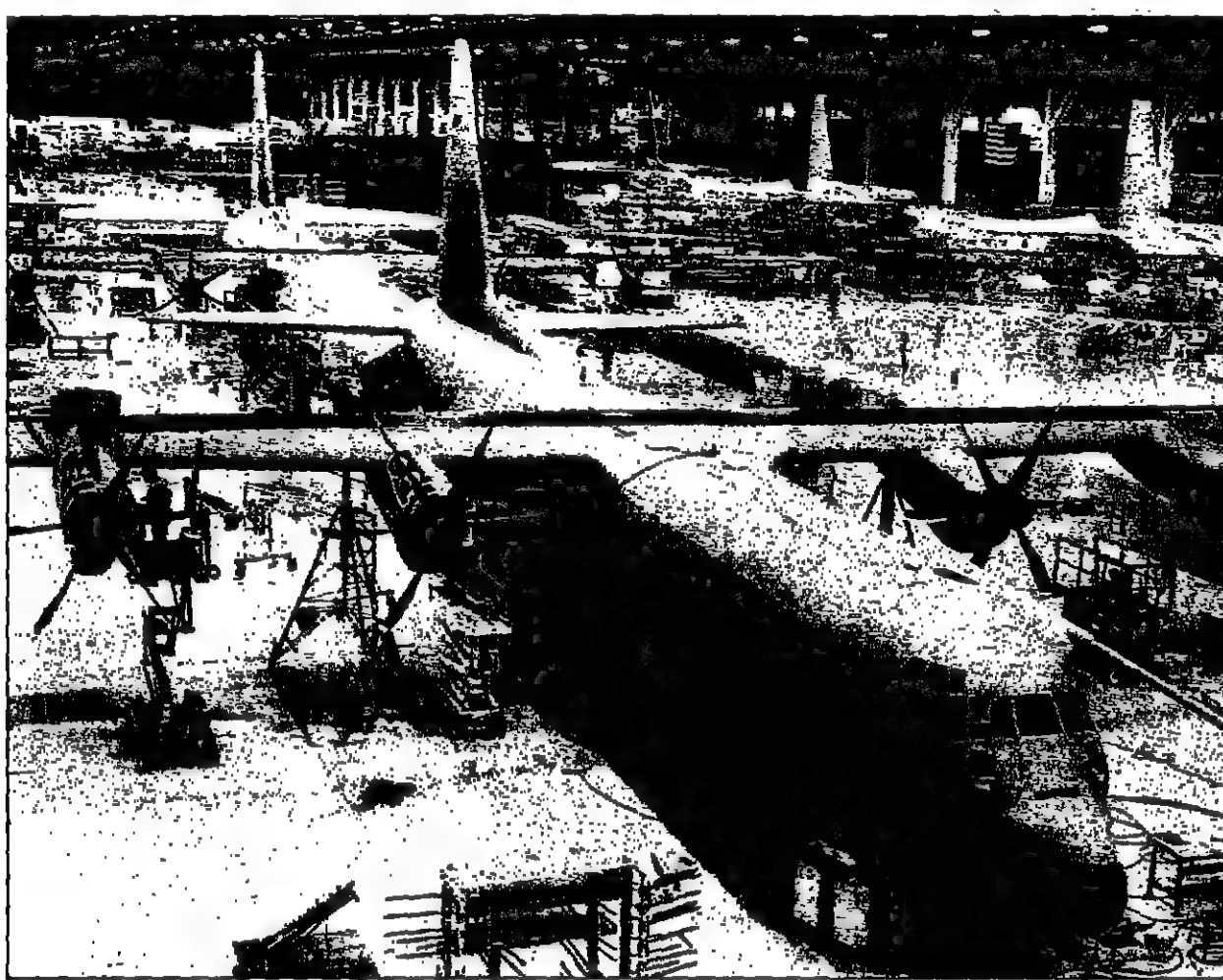
Adair Turner, CBI Director-General, said: "We now have an opposition party which is no longer putting forward policies which are deeply anti-business."

He said business remained concerned about specific issues, including Labour's commitment to sign the European social chapter and to introduce a minimum wage, though he welcomed Labour's shift in policy on a national minimum wage at its conference this

month. Labour dropped its policy to set a minimum wage by a rigid earnings-linked formula, and decided to set it after consulting employers and employees. Mr Turner said this evidence of flexibility would mean a minimum wage with fewer job losses. But despite concerns about how far Labour backbenchers supported both changes and Mr Blair, he said: "They have moved a significant way, and that's welcome."

On the economy, CBI leaders struck a "cautiously optimistic" note, suggesting the next move in interest rates ought to be down — though adding there was no case for such a move now. Mr Turner said conflicting evidence made the current economic climate hard to read, though he disagreed with the assessment by the Institute of Directors this week that economic growth was not pausing, but was moving into a "downturn".

While he maintained that the economic picture was varied, he accepted that the economy had slowed recently, adding that the room for tax cuts in the Budget still depended on the level of public borrowing and government success in controlling public spending.



Finishing touches: the RAF's new Lockheed Martin Hercules C-130J just prior to being rolled out yesterday.

RAF's new Hercules rolled out

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE first of a new generation of Hercules transport aircraft destined for the Royal Air Force was rolled out at Marietta, Georgia, yesterday by Lockheed Martin, the American defence company.

Twenty-five C-130J aircraft were ordered by the RAF last year under a £1 billion contract to replace the oldest aircraft in the RAF's fleet. The aircraft, based on a design which has now been flying for more than 30 years, has also been ordered by the United States Air Force and several others.

Meanwhile, efforts by Europe's aerospace industry to win government backing to design a larger replacement tactical transport, the Future Large Aircraft (FLA) brightened last week. Volker Rühle, the German Defence Minister, said Germany was willing to set aside 4.3 billion marks to fund its share of development costs and the purchase of 75 aircraft.

Backed by its government, Daimler-Benz Aerospace now seems determined to wrest the job of designing the wings from British Aerospace, Europe's leading wing specialist. Britain's credibility as a partner in European defence programmes has been damaged, both by its purchase of the C-130 and the selection this summer of Apache, an American attack helicopter.

More new homes needed

By ROBERT MILLER

NEARLY a quarter of a million new homes need to be built every year between now and 2011 if the demand from private owners and for subsidised rented accommodation is to be met. In that time, the number of households is expected to grow to 22.7 million from 19.2 million in 1991.

A report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation says that the "explosive" growth in homeownership seen in the 1980s, when owner-occupation rose from 38 to 67 per cent, will not be repeated in the next 20 years. The foundation predicts

that the percentage of people owning their homes will reach a "near plateau" of about 70 per cent by 2011.

The author of the report, Alan Holmans of Cambridge University, who retired last year as chief housing economist at the Department of Environment, says that the causes of the slowdown include income instability, higher levels of mortgage default and fewer tenants exercising the "Right to Buy".

Between 1990 and 1994, nearly 300,000 mortgaged properties were repossessed.

"This unprecedented setback for home ownership has underlined the degree to which a mortgage in the 1990s has become a more hazardous undertaking," he said.

Allan Wiles, of the National Council of Building Material Producers, calculates that the average number of new homes built annually has fallen to 161,000 in 1995 from 180,000 in the early 1990s.

Monthly mortgage lending fell by 7 per cent in September and by 51 per cent year-on-year, according to the Barclays Mortgage Index.

The Guinness appeal

'Terrifying' use of indemnities

By MELVYN MARCUS

LORD Taylor of Goshford, the Lord Chief Justice, described the City's confusion over the use of indemnities and the scale of such activities as "rather terrifying" at the third day of the Guinness appeal.

Lord Taylor's remark came after the revelation by Nicholas Purnell, QC, for Anthony Parnes, a former stockbroker, that the advice of leading City law firms such as Clifford Turner and Slaughter & May had been sought in connection with transactions that involved controversial indemnity arrangements.

The City's confusion was illustrated by a Bank of England meeting held on June 2, 1987, regarding Henry Ansbacher's involvement in indemnity-based transactions. It was acknowledged at the meet-

ing, headed by Brian Quinn, head of banking supervision, that section 151 of the Companies Act — which prohibits a company from purchasing its own shares — was a "grey area", the interpretation of which was unclear. It was also acknowledged that share price support operations were considered common practice in certain situations.

Mr Purnell argued that the non-disclosure of the findings of the TWH Tribunal and other information in the possession of the Serious Fraud Office was prejudicial to Mr Parnes's defence. It was also contrary to directions given by Mr Justice Henry, who presided over the Guinness trial, to "let the defence into the quarry".

The TWH Tribunal focused on TWH Management's support for six bid situations including Next/Grattan and LHSB/

Good Relations — details of which were not released until the second trial when Lord Spens, one of the defendants, contended that "indemnities were all the rage". Mr Purnell also claimed that the prosecution knew of DTI inquiries into Gerald Ronson's share purchases in Debenhams during the Burton takeover battle and DTI investigations into TWH and Henry Ansbacher.

In response to an earlier request from Lord Taylor, Mr Purnell produced a list of takeover situations, including Turner & Newall/AE, with a breakdown of indemnities, possible infringements of Section 151 and success fees.

Mr Parnes, Mr Ronson, Ernest Saunders and Jack Lyons are all appealing against their convictions following the 113-day trial in 1990.

Talk grows of BAT deal to buy Gartmore

SPECULATION mounted in the City last night that BAT Industries, the tobacco-to-financial services group, was in advanced talks with Banque Indosuez, to buy Gartmore, one of the UK's leading fund management houses. The market had been expecting an announcement from the French bank that it had sold its 75 per cent stake in Gartmore after the close of trading yesterday.

Banque Indosuez indicated last month its willingness to sell its shares in Gartmore, which manages more than £25 billion of funds invested in a range of unit and investment trusts and pension schemes. BAT is known to be very keen to add Gartmore to its stable of financial services groups that includes Allied-Dunbar, Eagle Star and Threadneedle Asset Management. Last week Gartmore shares jumped on rumours that Dresdner, the German bank, was making a bid. But BAT is still regarded as a frontrunner. Paul Myrers, Gartmore chairman, declined to comment.

Plea from small firms

SMALL FIRMS today called on the Government to abolish the business rates system in a bid to ease the financial burden on shops and smaller companies. The uniform business rate should be replaced with a new system that takes into account a firm's ability to pay, the Federation of Small Business said. The business rate raises more than £12 billion from 1.6 million business ratepayers, compared with the £7.4 billion from 20 million houses raised by the council tax. The federation described the business rate as a "killer" and said that firms could go under if the rate was increased in the Budget.

Polaroid out of focus

POLAROID suffered a 19 per cent drop in third-quarter profits, blaming a decline in US sales and costs associated with establishing its own distribution system in Japan. The company earned \$23.7 million, or 51 cents per share, in the three months to September 30, compared with \$29.3 million, or 62 cents per share a year earlier. Sales rose to \$580 million from \$576.7 million, boosted by an 11 per cent rise in international sales. Domestic sales dropped 9 per cent. For the first nine months, Polaroid lost \$22.2 million, or 64 cents per share, compared with a profit of \$59.9 million.

US deficit shrinks

BOOMING overseas sales helped to shrink America's deficit on trade in goods and services sharply in August to the smallest total for any month this year, the Commerce Department reported yesterday. The trade shortfall dropped 21.2 per cent from July's total to \$8.82 billion, well under Wall Street economists' forecasts of \$11 billion. The controversial deficit with Japan fell in August for a fifth consecutive month, while strong sales of aircraft and computers brought down the deficit with Western Europe. Total exports rose 3.7 per cent to a record \$65.74 billion. Imports were flat at \$74.56 billion.

Black & Decker rises

BLACK & DECKER said aggressive cost-cutting and productivity improvements helped to boost profits 48 per cent in the third quarter. Net earnings increased to \$43.5 million, or 46 cents a share, from \$29.3 million, or 31 cents a share. Sales grew 4 per cent to \$1.38 billion (\$1.32 billion). Substantial gains in security and plumbing hardware, glass container-making equipment and fastening systems all performed well. Earnings for the nine months climbed 35 per cent to \$104 million, or \$1.09 a share, from \$66.9 million. Sales advanced to \$3.91 billion (\$3.63 billion).

More building gloom

The workload of Britain's recession-hit construction industry declined by a further 2 per cent during the past three months, according to a survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Confidence about prospects for the rest of the year is "very low", according to responses from 200 firms that participated in the survey. Richard Houghton, the RICS construction spokesman, said that rationalisation and poor orders could cost a further 100,000 jobs in the industry during the next three years unless there was a substantial pick-up in demand.

Extra Gucci shares

THE number of Gucci shares to be offered in the forthcoming stock market sell-off is to be increased in response to investor demand. The number of new shares to be issued by Gucci will remain at 13.5 million but the number of shares to be sold by Investcorp, which at present owns all the Gucci stock, will be raised from 2.5 million to 11 million. After flotation, Gucci, a holding company indirectly controlled by Investcorp, will own 51 per cent of Gucci. The offer is expected to close tomorrow and the price is expected to be set on Monday. Trading is expected to start on Tuesday.

Investing in...
futures
Options?

Can a £20,000 deposit really control an investment of up to £500,000?

With what amount can I participate in these markets?

What percentage of my investment portfolio, if any, should be in futures or options?

How can I limit my risk when trading futures?

How do I open an account and what are the costs?

If you need answers to these and other questions, then call us today for a no nonsense, easy to understand response

PHILLIP ALLEN & CO.
SECURITIES AND FUTURES LIMITED
Ventura House, 125 Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1PA, Fax 0171 417 9704
REGULATED BY THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES AUTHORITY, MEMBER OF THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE
Call Keith Johnson now
on 0171 417 9700
Please call toll-free 1-800-417-9700

RISK WARNING: Futures and Options are high risk investments and may not be suitable for you. If you are in any doubt please consult your financial advisor. Prices can go down as well as up and this can lead to losses in excess of monies deposited.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
opqrstuvwxyzxyz

We are 23 places ahead of our major competitor

No nonsense Agreements from 90 Days • Canon Copiers • Mita Copiers • Colour Laser Copiers • Fast, efficient service • Leaders in Remanufactured Copiers

copy

The much copied copier company

Call 0800 90.40.90

Head Office: Queens House, Ulswater Crescent, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2EQ

25 اكتوبر 1995

□ Jobless and sales down in a mixed economy □ DTI plan for a super-OFT □ Singapore looks to limit the damage

Signals on amber for Ken

THE new CBI leader, Adair Turner, was right to strike a cautious note when trying to read the runes of the economy from the latest mixed bag of indicators. The largest fall in unemployment this year was accompanied by a set of retail sales figures that enough to play snooker on.

Some industries have been making their feelings plain enough for some time: the construction industry has been shouting about the return of recession loud enough to wake, if not the dead, then at least the officials taking away on the Budget at the Treasury.

The official retail sales figures are gloomy enough, though the high street has known for many months that too few shoppers are coming in through their doors, and of those who are, not enough are confident enough about the economy, about their homes and about their jobs to dig into their pockets.

The labour market at least looks better. After two years of improving unemployment figures, the monthly falls this year have been shrinking, only to disappear entirely in June.

But August's drop in the number of jobless and yesterday's even bigger fall were much larger than the City expected and may be indicating an unexpected improvement in the job market.

What all this means for government policy is clearly a continuation of the current recipe, though it is clear that the next move in interest rates needs to be downward, even if it does not come immediately.

The real danger is a political one. The Chancellor runs the risk of upsetting this delicate and far from wholly positive economic balance with a Budget that provides the cuts in taxes that worried Tories believe are vital if they are to stand any chance of saving their own electoral skins.

The mixed signals coming from the economic indicators suggest that Kenneth Clarke will have to pull off some spectacular economic conjuring next month when he hauls out the familiar battered red box.

No monopoly on change

AS Monopolies and Mergers Commission references of important takeover bids seem to have gone the way of the dodo and the Great Auk, there is

perhaps no harm in restricting the powers of that body and boosting those of what is increasingly the real judge on competition matters, the Office of Fair Trading.

Any number of brewing bids over the past decade have been exhaustively probed by the Commission, yet the latest, the Scottish & Newcastle purchase of Courage, creating the largest concentration of market power so far, went through after relatively weak conditions were imposed. Likewise the electricity industry has been widely restructured without any MMC scrutiny as yet.

Now the Department of Trade proposes to formalise the *de facto* position, which is that the MMC is only brought in if the OFT and the bidder cannot reach agreement. Given the flexibility the OFT has shown of late, such agreement may not prove difficult to achieve — it has even been brokered by the DTI itself, as with S&N/Courage when the list of pre-conditions that could clear the deal was drawn up by the department and sent back to both parties for their acceptance.



The Government's inclination to allow mergers if they serve the needs of business was made explicit by Jonathan Evans before the Commons Select Committee yesterday, when he spoke of "the very real risk of muzzling the competitive instincts of our businessmen and women". The committee by contrast favours a spirit of prohibition towards the abuse of market power, as well as a merged OFT/MMC from which there is no appeal.

Mr Evans countered that with the importance attached by industry to a separation of powers, for which read that no government department, and certainly not his own, is going to relinquish its powers as court of last appeal. Instead the Government

favours a super-OFT dealing with most cases of anti-competitive behaviour. Fine if that body remembers it was created as the main protector of the consumer; but the appointment this year of a businessman to head it has already raised fears that the Government may see it in a different role.

Barings chiefs avoid the rap

THE notion of Peter Norris or any other Barings executive being extradited from London to Singapore to face charges for destroying Barings Bank is as likely as Nick Leeson getting life imprisonment when his trial on the island is finally completed.

The Singapore authorities were very keen yesterday to make it clear that their Commercial Affairs Division was investigating the possibility of extraditing senior Barings executives and trying them for criminal activities. The CAD, like any such investigating body, exists to carry out such work. But in reality the last thing the authori-

ties want is the board of Barings in the dock. At almost seven thousand miles distance from London there is much more they can do to help the much-needed damage limitation exercise for their newly emerging financial industry.

The collapse of Barings was originally blamed on one rogue trader running riot on the Simex market. The authorities had to do something to enhance the international credibility of Simex or risk every other international bank taking fright and pulling out of Singapore for fear of a similar downfall.

It is now generally accepted that Barings would not have collapsed as a result of Leeson's illicit dealings alone. It was the blank cheques being signed and deaf ears being turned in London that finished off 233 years of banking history.

When Leeson appears in court he is likely to be treated as the small cog he was. If James Bax, Leeson's regional boss currently in Singapore and unable to leave until his passport is handed back, is charged, he might throw light on just how strict — or not

— Singaporean supervision was. He had after all sent the warning memo on the flawed Barings system of having back and front offices under one person well before Leeson even arrived on the island.

Leeson will now face a show trial designed both to demonstrate a fair system of Singaporean justice and indicate to the financial world that London, and not the local market, is culpable. Singapore has already talked to British public relations firms about handling the damage limitation. But when Leeson gets a fair sentence, London is seen as the lax, even risky regulator, and Simex has its image restored, then the Singaporean game will have been played out.

EMULATING Helmut

HANS TIETMEYER, like Dickens's Joe the Far Boy, wants to make our flesh creep about the disciplines needed to maintain a Eurocurrency. Like Helmut Kohl's warning a few weeks back about delays to a single currency, his remarks are addressed to those among the German electorate who fear they will lose out, no matter their effect on Europhobes and Europhiles alike. By invoking the horrors of the world after EMU he is doing his best to delay its arrival.

US losses and higher costs hit Body Shop

By SARAH BAGNALL

HIGHER costs and losses from the slogging American stores resulted in Body Shop, the eco-friendly retailer, reporting a bigger than expected drop in interim profits.

Pre-tax profits dropped from £12.3 million to £9.1 million in the 26 weeks to August 26. The drop in profits took place in spite of a 15 per cent rise in retail sales to £28.7 million. Group turnover grew 13 per cent to £105.4 million.

John Richards, an analyst at NatWest Securities, said: "The results were a disappointment, but had been anticipated by the group." In May, the retailer gave a warning to shareholders that profits growth was expected to be minimal in the current year.

Yesterday, Gordon Roddick, the chairman, reiterated that "we do not anticipate much change in the level of pre-tax profit for the full year compared with 1995".

The first-half results included a few surprises, such as the losses incurred in the US were slightly more than City forecasts, while the emergence of Australasia as the latest trouble spot added to the gloom surrounding the company.

Body Shop also revealed that the costs of restructuring



Gordon Roddick says store-opening plan is on course

the group had crept ahead £3 million to £16 million, of which £12.5 million was spent in the first half. First-half operating costs rose 30 per cent. The sum effect of these

factors resulted in the share price sliding 6p to 135p. The group opened 90 stores during the first half, taking the total to 1,300 spread over 45 countries. Of the total stores,

262 are in the US, 245 in the UK, and 65 in Australia and New Zealand. The worst sales performances were suffered by the US and Australasia stores that both saw like-for-like sales declines of 8 per cent. At the other end of the spectrum were the 142 Asian stores, which lifted underlying sales by 15 per cent, fuelled by a strong performance in Japan.

The stores in America incurred a loss of £2.4 million, compared with a profit of £1.5 million last time, while the Australasia stores made a profit of £900,000, against £600,000 last time. In the UK, sales rose 5 per cent to £63.5 million, with underlying sales growth of 2 per cent. However, the UK's stores profit contribution fell £1.4 million to £2.9 million, reflecting the increased operating costs.

Mr Roddick said that the group was on course to reach its target of opening 150 stores in the year.

Net debt rose from £18 million to £23.2 million, resulting in gearing of 20 per cent. The interim dividend was lifted from 0.9p to 1.08p. The dividend, due on January 11, is being paid out of earnings of 2.8p a share, down from 4.2p last time.

Tempus, page 28

News International in digital technology deal

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NEWS INTERNATIONAL, owner of The Times, has bought the Advanced Products Division of NTL, the transmission company, in a move designed to put the company at the forefront of the international digital broadcasting industry.

The deal, for an undisclosed sum, will give News Technology Group, the technology arm of the News Corporation, access to NTL's digital broadcasting technology. It is a leader in the technology of

digital broadcasting including compression, multiplexing, modulation and decoder boxes. The Advanced Products Division has been instrumental in helping to develop MPEG-2, the Europe-wide digital video standard.

Abe Peled, chief executive of News Digital Systems and News Datacom, two of the companies involved in News International's technology activities, said he hoped to turn the new company, Digi-Media Vision, into a UK-based "technology powerhouse". He said:

"We are committed to accelerate the development of world-wide open standards," and essential technologies in

Analysts said the deal would be "extremely valuable" to News Corp and to News International, which also owns 40 per cent of BSkyB, the satellite broadcasting company. Katherine Pelly, of Warburgs, said: "NTL is at the cutting edge of digital compression technology. The deal means that News Corp are likely to be the people with the system adopted as the industry standard."

Legal action over Leeson

NICK LEESON'S British lawyer last night called on the Singapore authorities to clarify remarks made by officials there that Singapore was prepared to plea bargain.

Lawrence Ang, director of Commercial Affairs Division, investigating the \$860 million Barings collapse, had said that Singapore might try to extradite some of the merchant banks senior management to stand trial if they were found to have committed criminal offences.

Mr Ang also said a plea bargain with Mr Leeson, who is fighting extradition to Singapore on 11 charges of cheating and forgery, might be possible. Pennington, page 27



Stay in style.
And stay in budget.

Heathrow · Manchester · Reading
and more than 70 hotels worldwide.

Radisson Hotels

For reservations contact your travel agent or call toll-free 0800 38 17 37.

Renewing your home contents insurance?

If you're looking for quality home contents cover from a company you know and trust, call Legal & General.

We offer up to £35,000 new-for-old cover with added discounts for the over 40s or for improved home security. And if you arrange both your home contents and buildings insurance with us, we'll give you 20% off your buildings policy. So find out about better home contents cover at a better price.

Call now for your free no-obligation quotation, we'll even give you a free coinholder keyring just to thank you for calling.

Call the name you can trust.
0800 282 404

Please quote reference 3655-28.
Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm.

Legal & General Insurance, FREEPOST, Quay House, The Quadrant, Bournemouth BH1 1RN, Wessex House, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Legal & General

GET MORE OUT OF YOUR PHONE!

Save up to **60%** on phone charges!

Call the hotline **0345 1602 00**

for more information. To join DIAL 1602 immediately, have your credit card details to hand. Savings are quoted against current BT basic rates before any special discounts or promotions are applied. Savings correct as of 1 October 1995.

Trafalgar House sinks as index hits new high

SHARES of Trafalgar House, the Queen Elizabeth 2 shipping to construction group, slumped to an all-time low as the City continued to take an increasingly pessimistic view of prospects.

The price touched 18½p before ending 2½p lower at 21p as a staggering 70.4 million shares, around 3½ per cent of the company, changed hands. This included an agency cross involving 28.4 million ordinary shares and 9.5 million convertibles carried out by Kleinwort Benson, the broker, on behalf of Robert Fleming, which is believed to have transferred the shares from one fund to another.

The Trafalgar price has plunged from the 70p level since it first made its aborted bid for Northern Electric in September last year. Sentiment was also affected by the controversial QE2 refit in Germany earlier this year.

Weighed down by growing debt and the decline in the construction industry, the group has been forced to take drastic action. Earlier this month, it sold the Ritz Hotel to the Barclay brothers for £75 million.

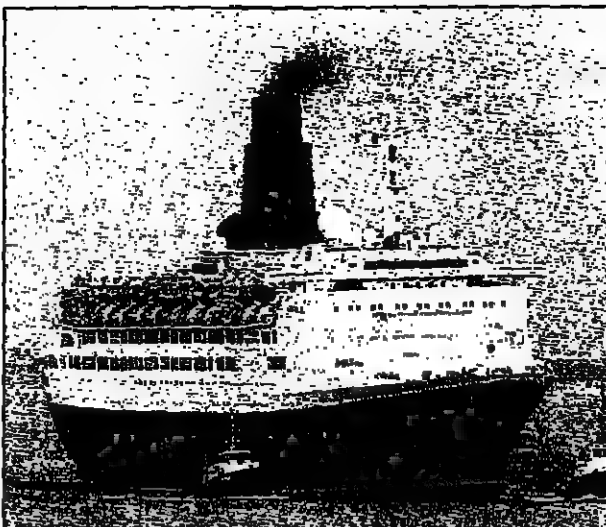
Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market extended its record-breaking run as share prices continued to build up a head of steam in the belief that another major bid is about to materialise.

The FT-SE 100 index touched an all-time high of 3,998 before ending the session 30.8 points up at a new closing high of 3,993.0 as 753 million shares were traded. It was a performance that failed to impress the market-makers, many of whom have been thrown into confusion by the market's recent gyrations.

Most of them have endeavoured this week to pick the top of the market with little success. Having gone short, they are now trying desperately to cover their exposed positions without much success.

Once again there was no shortage of bid speculation, with the financial sector continuing to lead the way. Garmore climbed 5p to 293p in late trading, with news of a bid from BAT expected any day.

BAT is believed to be locked in talks with Banque Indosuez, which put the "for sale" sign up on its 75 per cent stake in Garmore last month. BAT, 2p lighter at 546p, is thought to be desperate to buy



The QE2 refit was one problem for Trafalgar House

Garmore to add to its extensive financial services operation, which already includes Allied Hambro, Eagle Star and Farmers in the US. Banque Indosuez's stake may fetch up to £400 million.

Elsewhere, the focus of attention fell on the insurers. The composites, where there has been persistent talk of a bid, were marked sharply

Dalgely, the Spillers and Homebridge group, dropped 5p to 424p. A total of 14.3 million shares changed hands in a marketplace where traders will normally only make a price in parcels of 25,000. Brokers say the price has been depressed by talk of at least 5 million shares overhanging the City.

higher after Kleinwort Benson and ABN Amro Hoare Govett both issued buy recommendations for General Accident, up 23p to 686p. Commercial Union also responded with a rise of 26p to 624p and there were gains for Royal, 26½p to 411½p, Sun Alliance, 16p to 389p and Guardian Royal Exchange, 7p to 241p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett gave another push to the life assur-

ance companies with Britannia adding 30p to 705p, Prudential 14½p to 397½p and London and Manchester 8p to 390p.

Persistent talk of a bid lifted Royal Bank of Scotland another 20p to a peak of 544p. Last week, the speculators were talking about a possible merger with Bank of Scotland, up 5½p to 263p. This week

the broker, at which it will outline future strategy. The City has been speculating for some weeks about a possible break-up of the company, with Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, calculating a figure of £9 a share.

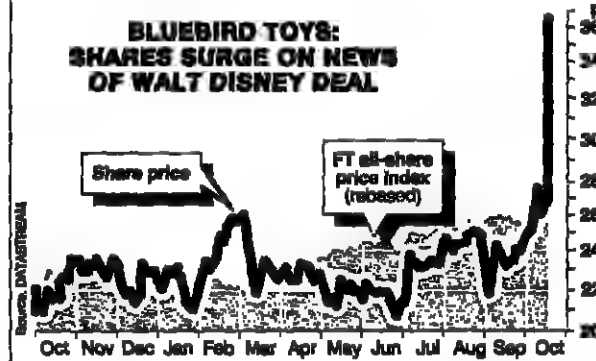
The bears were on the run in WH Smith as the share price surged 21p to 377p. Shareholders at the annual meeting were given a rosy picture of prospects with sales up 8 per cent in the first quarter. It even enabled the shares to shrug off news of a £20 million restructuring charge to be set against first half profits.

An unexpected drop in first-half figures left Body Shop 6p lower at 135p. Pre-tax profits were down 26 per cent at £9.1 million with the group blaming difficult trading conditions in the US and a sharp rise in operating costs.

Gordon Roddick, chairman, said he does not expect much change in full-year profits in spite of the group's US operations swinging into the red.

Shares in Bluebird Toys surged 97p to 367p, on volume of three million shares, after the toys group announced a key product development and marketing deal with the Walt Disney Company and Mamel. Tim Steer, at Merrill Lynch, has raised his 1996 pre-tax profit forecast for Bluebird from £23 million to £24.5 million.

NEW YORK: On Wall Street, a rally in high technology stocks followed strong quarterly results from Microsoft, but the Dow Jones industrial average was down 7.22 points at 4,788.72 by midday.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	4788.72 (-7.22)
S&P Composite	588.10 (+1.32)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	17895.91 (-20.63)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9973.70 (-59.23)
Amsterdam:	
EUR Index	457.77 (+1.29)
Sydney:	
ASX	2111.4 (+2.9)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2194.81 (+6.22)
Singapore:	
SEAC	2104.89 (+5.51)
Brussels:	
General	7738.04 (+30.09)
CAC-40	1770.66 (-9.08)
Zurich:	
SEA Gen	702.20 (+4.28)
London:	
FT 100	3993.0 (+30.8)
FTSE 100	3993.0 (+30.8)
FTSE 250	2941.3 (+4.4)
FTSE 350	1785.3 (+12.3)
FTSE 400	1412.5 (+5.79)
FTSE 500	1782.78 (+11.48)
FTSE 600	1897.8 (+7.88)
FTSE 700	111.09 (+0.17)
FTSE 800	92.43 (+0.11)
FTSE 900	26.59
FTSE 1000	794.50
FTSE 1100	181.27 (-0.23)
FTSE 1200	1.5977 (-0.004)
FTSE 1300	2.2237 (+0.0029)
FTSE 1400	94.2 (same)
FTSE 1500	Bank of England official rate (4.75%)
FTSE 1600	1.937
FTSE 1700	1.937
FTSE 1800	1.937
FTSE 1900	1.937
FTSE 2000	1.937
FTSE 2100	1.937
FTSE 2200	1.937
FTSE 2300	1.937
FTSE 2400	1.937
FTSE 2500	1.937
FTSE 2600	1.937
FTSE 2700	1.937
FTSE 2800	1.937
FTSE 2900	1.937
FTSE 3000	1.937
FTSE 3100	1.937
FTSE 3200	1.937
FTSE 3300	1.937
FTSE 3400	1.937
FTSE 3500	1.937
FTSE 3600	1.937
FTSE 3700	1.937
FTSE 3800	1.937
FTSE 3900	1.937
FTSE 4000	1.937
FTSE 4100	1.937
FTSE 4200	1.937
FTSE 4300	1.937
FTSE 4400	1.937
FTSE 4500	1.937
FTSE 4600	1.937
FTSE 4700	1.937
FTSE 4800	1.937
FTSE 4900	1.937
FTSE 5000	1.937

RECENT ISSUES

Cons Coal (50)	65
Euro Sales (10)	130
Garmore (10)	18
Hay & Robertson	39
MultiMedia (45)	60
Murray Vici	105
Omnicare	86
Pemberton	60
Pictet British (100)	102
Preston Nth (400)	400
SCS Sat Sys (125)	121
Univ Sal (145)	183
Upon & Sth Ws	

FUTURE ISSUES

Alumina n/p (300)	110
Anglo-East n/p (105)	8
Barris n/p (16)	2
Forth Ports n/p (400)	73
RMC n/p (550)	128

MAJOR CHANGES

Bluebird Toys	367p (+97p)
JBA Hidge	380p (+42p)
Hombly	187p (+10p)
Smith WH	377p (+21p)
Tottenham Hot	205p (+10p)
Britannia	705p (+30p)
Can Union	650p (+16p)
San Alliance	389p (+16p)
Royal Bk Scot	544p (+20p)
Gen Accident	686p (+23p)
Amstar	283p (+8p)
GLS	582p (+11p)
Abbey National	589p (+18p)
FT Aerospace	739p (+11p)
Eurolaser	128p (+10p)
Highland Dwl	338p (+10p)
Dagbl	338p (+10p)
Roche & Nolen	282p (+8p)
Adair	486p (+8p)
Radco	470p (+8p)
Broken Hill	800p (+14p)
First Group	233p (+8p)
Body Shop	135p (-6p)
BIC	282p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 32

TEMPUS

More bodies, less shop

BODY SHOP needs to reinvent itself and it needs to be done quickly if the retailer is to recover the sales momentum needed to sustain its aggressive expansion. Body Shop is sprouting like weeds after rain in the United States, while sales in the existing stores slump. The company opened 27 stores in the first half and plans 40 new units in the US by the year-end, but like-for-like sales were down 8 per cent.

Body Shop blames competition and the American retailing environment, where low entry costs allow rivals, such as Bath and Body Works, to snatch customers away with aggressive promotions. The company's response is more advertising and the closure of a distribution centre to reduce costs.

The trouble is that while the US is Body Shop's biggest potential market with the largest number of stores, it generated no profit in the

first half and, overall, costs are rising. As the company hires more marketing experts, sales from existing stores in the UK and continental Europe are static in real terms but declining in Australia. The only bright spot is Asia, where the Japanese obsession with brands is allowing Body Shop to achieve a 15 per cent surge in like-for-like sales.

Born a concept retailer, Body Shop is finding the transition to high street fixture difficult. The consumer is no longer lured by the display of trendy slogans in its windows and the company has not been successful in differentiating its products from those of its rivals. At the same time, its ability to control stocks and eliminate slow-moving products has been weak. If Body Shop fails to reverse the sales trend in America, the increased overheads will prove a heavy burden.

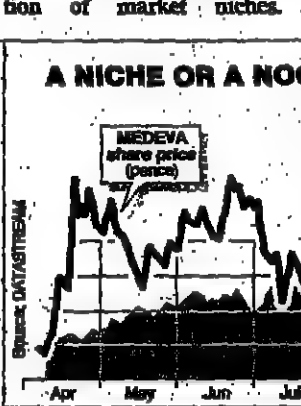
Medeva

ANYONE who bought Medeva shares on the strength of bid rumours in March will have been rewarded handsomely. The abortive takeover by Fisons gave an initial fillip to the price but, curiously, the biggest out-performance in the shares has occurred since talks between the two companies broke down in July. Medeva is now rated at a 17 per cent premium to the market, substantially ahead of Glaxo but still trailing SmithKline Beecham and Zeneca.

Fisons has since been absorbed into Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, leaving Medeva as an odd fish in a shrinking pharmaceutical pond. For investors still betting on industry consolidation, that is good enough reason to buy. Big funds, having cashed in their Wellcome and Fisons

A NICHE OR A NOOSE

Medeva shares price (pence)



WH Smith

A BORED stock market chose to ignore the fundamentals yesterday and gave a boost to WH Smith shares, focusing on rumoured changes in the boardroom. Yesterday's annual meeting produced no new information, but a slightly higher provision than analysts had built in to their forecasts. Furthermore, what was said did nothing to change the view that Smith remains in deep trouble.

Smith operates out of high-cost locations but sells low-margin goods, many of which are in markets vulnerable to poaching by the supermarket groups. The core retail chain does nothing that specialist operators such as Waterstones and WH Smith's own Our Price do better.

The company hints of changes but there is scant evidence of it. As always, Christmas is crucial and without news on how Smith fared during the period there is little to encourage an investor to

DFS Furniture

A SLIGHT dip in the price of DFS Furniture shares yesterday should not worry the company's fans. The clear message was that the showrooms were still humming with customers for three-piece suites. The main reason for the slide was that the shares went ex-dividend for the 10p special payout.

The chairman's planned disposal of a third of his interest should not prove a problem. DFS shares have been a tight market and the stock ought to be placed at a

right discount — there are likely to be few institutional sellers — and will benefit from extra liquidity.

DFS should continue its rapid expansion. It has hardly tapped the potential in the South of England and while its long-term target of 100 stores may prove optimistic, the existing chain of 30 units with an 8 per cent market share leaves room for growth.

With operating cash flow of £10 million, the company is able to generate sufficient funds to pay for expansion and generate a surplus. The principal reason for its high liquidity is the lack of stock — DFS only manufactures to order — and the high sales densities that can be achieved under such a policy. After paying the special dividend, the company will still have £18 million in the bank, suggesting that investors can bet on another generous payout within the next two years.

EDITED BY CARL MORTIMER

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE			
Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Cocoa	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Gold	999.99	999.99	999.99
Silver	999.99	999.99	999.99
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

UNIT LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Bull & Co)

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS

Commodity	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Wheat	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Barley	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Maize	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022
Soybeans	1009-1022	1009-1022	1009-1022

COMMODITIES

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Furniture in the frame

GRAHAM KIRKHAM, the Doncaster businessman, is not the sort of entrepreneur the City wows. The bluff Yorkshireman has built his DFS furniture empire without any unnecessary or costly bank borrowing. When it floated in 1993 he did not offend all the shareholders. They have risen, but finally the market has prevailed and persuaded him to sell a third of his stake for about \$50 million.

He will spend the money to improve his art collection. His best known painting to date is a Gainsborough entitled *Peasants Going to Market*.



Taking stick

SIR Richard Greenbury sets great store by discipline throughout his life. He was, he now admits, the most canny boy in his school (Ealing County Grammar) and was suspended three times. His mother was told by the head that he never did any work. He left with six O-levels and packed parcels in Lilywhites. From there, he got into M&S and his rise is well known, but his interview in *Capability* magazine raises the question whether M&S would recruit a young Greenbury today. He berates the typical recruitment criteria. "With my coding, record, I was never going to make a prefect. I was not a team captain, and although a very good footballer... I was a forward and defender are usually captains. This doesn't mean I have no leadership qualities and presumably I've proved that I have."

Essex thirst
THERE are economic indicators and economic indicators. Now Kenneth Clarke and his wife have a new survey on which to base their forecasts. Scottish & Newcastle Retail, the pub company, claims to be ahead of the game in discovering a resurgence in consumer spending in the South East. The evidence? An upturn in sales at pubs in Essex. At the Coopers Arms in Romford, near the Ford works at Dagenham, business is up 42 per cent year-on-year, the company reports. At the Hoy and Helmet in Benfleet the increase is 56 per cent and the Red Lion at Witham is up 44 per cent. "Essex has always been a barometer for our business," confesses David Grace, managing director of S&N's southern area division.

Golfing rabbit
AMONG the 68 players attending Nourse International's charity golf day at Wentworth, that raised over £9,000 for the Children in Cities Appeal, was Glen Dobinson, a Lloyd's underwriter, who did so badly last year that he won a tin of biscuits. This year he again collected the trophy prize — a lesson at the Royal Berkshire Shooting School. Could this be a hint?

RARELY is St Luke's Day observed. But yesterday the day of the patron saint of physicians was marked by one of the biggest mergers in the pharmaceutical field — between Inco of the US and Norway's Haffslund Nycomed.

Bunkum of rational expectations

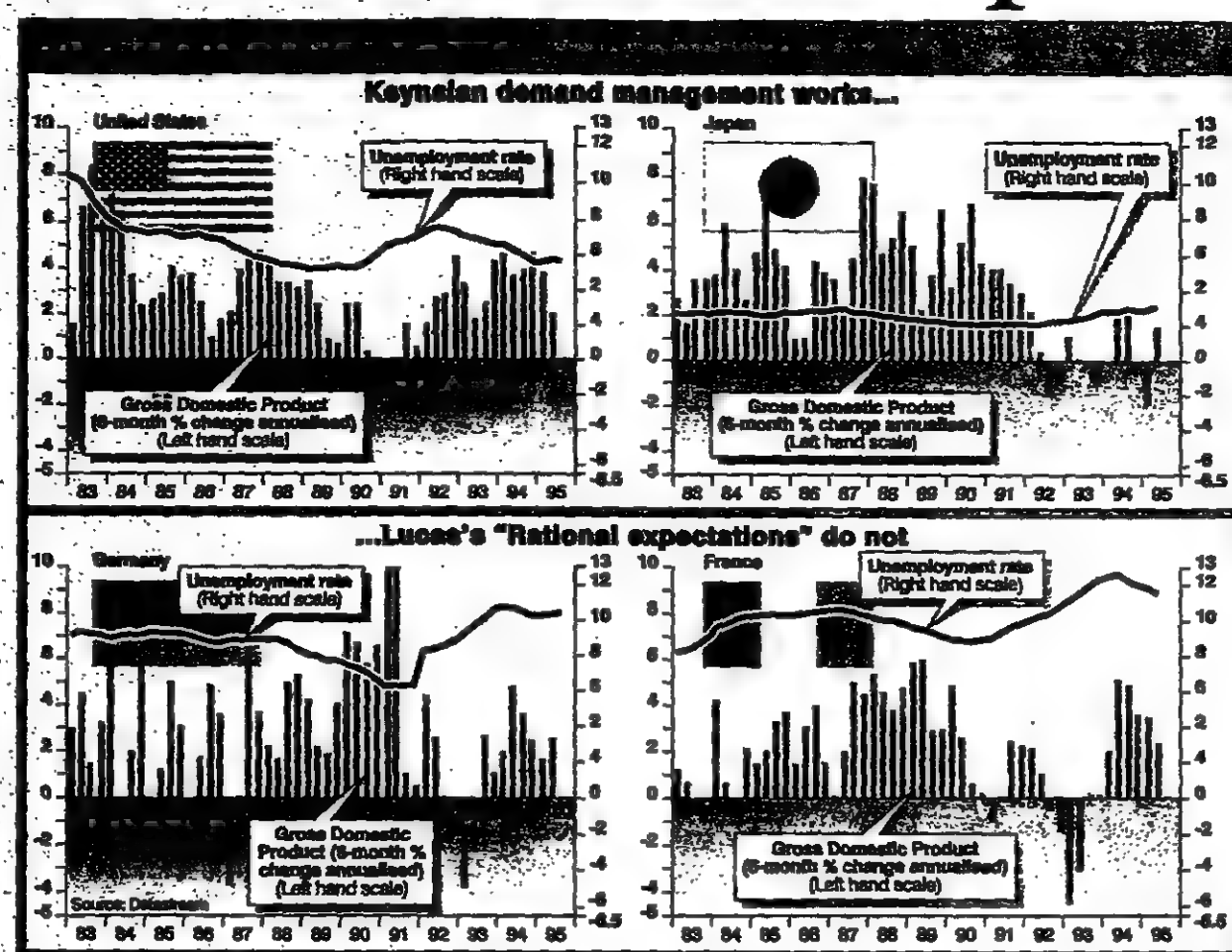
The damage done by one Nobel prizewinner's theory is probably comparable to that of a major war

LAST week, the Nobel Prize for economics was awarded to Professor Robert Lucas of the University of Chicago. His prize-winning theory of "rational expectations" is a farago of unsubstantiated conjectures and manifest nonsense. It claims to prove that every government action designed to stabilise an economy will achieve the opposite result. The economic damage done around the world by this one abuse theory — which lies at the heart of the monetarist attack on all macroeconomic policies to mitigate recessions or limit unemployment — is probably comparable to the destruction wrought by a major war.

The core of the Lucas theory is that rational people are too clever to be outwitted by central bankers and governments. They learn from experience that any increase in the money supply or expansion in government deficits simply produces inflation. This is the "rational expectation" that gives the theory its name.

From this conjecture it follows, via a few lines of mathematics, that demand management can never work. If Keynesian fine-tuners keep trying to stabilise the economy, rational businessmen will automatically offset their actions. Whenever interest rates are cut or fiscal policy is loosened, businesses simply raise their prices instead of increasing output and offering more jobs. But if every effort at demand management is bound to prove futile or counterproductive, it follows that the consequences of announcing a rigid monetary targeting must always be benign. The only proviso is that governments and central banks must adhere to whatever targets they choose with such rigidity that their absolute commitment is generally believed.

To see what all this means, readers in Britain need only



think back to the ERM period or the heyday of M3 targeting in the early 1980s. Those on the Continent may prefer to reflect on the franc fort.

Remember the Government's self-justifying rhetoric during the ERM period (echoed exactly by France today): it did not matter whether the Government had chosen a sensible exchange rate or the right monetary target. All that mattered was the Government's unwavering commitment to achieve its announced objective, come hell or high water. Once businessmen and workers realised that there was no escaping the pre-announced objectives, they would adjust their behaviour to fit with the Government's targets. If the economic model did not match the real world, the world could always adjust.

And who betide the "siren voices" who ever dared to call for policy change. The slightest wavering in the monetary targets and a deluge of inflation-

ary retribution would follow as night follows day.

Professor Lucas was once asked what he would do if he were appointed chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. Reportedly, he said: "I would set a monetary target and then resign." This story may be apocryphal, but it captures the essence of his big idea.

Raw politicians or businessmen may ever have heard of rational expectations and Professor Lucas, but as Keynes said: "Practical men, who believe themselves to be quite exempt from any intellectual influences, are usually the slaves of some deluded economist. Madmen in authority, who hear voices in the air, are distilling their frenzy from some academic scribbler a few years back."

That reference to "madmen in authority" might have been specially written for the unconscious apostles of rational expectations. I realised this in the early 1980s, during a conver-

sation with an intimate of Margaret Thatcher and Nigel Lawson. It was one of those regular moments of crisis when everyone was accusing Mrs Thatcher of having "finally gone mad". The Prime Minister's friend, however, was not dismayed at all. Instead he remarked with relish: "I hope people believe this time that she really is mad. Then they will realise that the Government will stop at nothing to hit the money supply target. Once people believe that, our economic problems will be over."

This comment emphasises the contradiction at the heart of the theory of rational expectations. The theory says that rational people will believe in a government's determination to pursue a policy which is clearly irrational from a political, industrial and economic point of view. It asserts that rational people will believe in a predictable link between some mes-

sure of the money supply and inflation, when the empirical evidence shows that no such stable link exists. Finally, it says people will believe that demand management never works, when experience shows clearly that it usually does.

This last objection is by far the most important. It does not rest on abstract mathematics or psychological speculation, but on empirical observation of the real world.

Governments and central banks can be broadly divided into two. The first group, led by the Federal Reserve Board, consciously practise demand management. They believe it is possible simultaneously to control inflation and to stabilise the rate of unemployment, industrial capacity use or GDP growth at around what they view as their "natural" or "trend" rates. They set interest rates with a view to allowing the maximum growth consistent with steady inflation. Since September 1982, when Paul Volcker, the then Fed chairman, formally abandoned monetary targeting, this group of active demand managers has been led by the US. While Fed officials still occasionally pay lip-service to the monetarist orthodoxy that a central bank's sole job is to control inflation, nobody believes them — and their actions make it quite clear that they do not believe in nonsense themselves.

The group of macroeconomic activists led by the US also includes post-ERM Britain and Italy. Japan was a prominent member until 1990, when control of the central bank was captured by Yasuhiro Mieno, a monetarist hard-liner, with disastrous consequences that are now well-known. Since the economic measures announced this summer, Japan can probably be welcomed back into the demand management camp — and the forecasts for its economic performance are accordingly being upgraded by economists and investors around the world.

The second group, led by the Bank of France and the European Commission, seems genuinely to believe in the Lucas theory. They think that nothing can be achieved by active demand management. Maintaining a steady exchange rate or monetary target is in their view the very definition of economic success. Ideologically, the Bundesbank also belongs to this group. Its directors often boast that "the Bundesbank is not an anti-cyclical institution". However, the Bundesbank's actions speak louder than its words. The Bundesbank frequently overrides or misses its monetary targets. The many market analysts and investors who make a living by trying to analyse and predict the Bundesbank's decisions would not dream of ignoring the performance of German industry or the fluctuations in unemployment, as Professor Lucas's theories would suggest.

On balance, the Bundesbank is less of a fine-tuner than the Fed or the Japanese Government. Judged by actions, rather than rhetoric, it lies midway between the activist neo-Keynesian paradigm of the Fed and the self-denying ordinance of Professor Lucas as practised by the Bank of France.

To judge the value of Professor Lucas's contribution to economics, therefore, all we have to do is compare the economic performances of the main industrial countries in the 13 years since the Fed abandoned monetarism. Those who managed demand and ignored Professor Lucas have, on the whole, achieved economic stability and generally prospered: those who took his theory to heart have suffered economic disaster.

The conclusion is clear. The theory of rational expectations is bunkum. Professor Lucas is today \$1 million richer because the Nobel committee has proved to be far more glib than the "rational economic agents" his theory claimed to describe.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Who cares about bank customers?

From P. D. J. Wood
Sir, "Over 50 years ago I opened a modest bank account with Glyn Mills — a delightfully efficient and helpful company where the customer seemed to matter."

Happily these virtues were retained when it merged with Williams Deacon to become Williams and Glyn's bank. However trouble soon appeared — it was taken over by the Royal Bank of Scotland — the Williams and Glyn's name was dropped along with its many virtues and in came all the expensive, impersonal and money-grabbing vices of a financial monolith.

I seem to distinguish between common sense to pay more for an inferior service, so I left in disgust and, believing firmly in "small is beautiful", sought shelter with TSB. I am happy to say I have been looked after with courteous efficiency and was pleased to become a shareholder.

Now along comes this dreadful Lloyds Bank merger. I am at a loss to see how we customers will benefit — as a shareholder my views were never sought and I am not in the least interested in the extra dividends which are likely to come my way. It seems that some members of the boards are on to "nice little earners" of over £1 million each, while those who gave "technical advice" on how to perpetrate this undesirable cannibalism are likely to pocket £30 million.

If this isn't the "unacceptable face of capitalism" I don't know what is. But more to the point — where do I go now?

I am, Sir, a seemingly unimportant bank customer.
PETER D. J. WOOD,
2 St John's Road,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.

Support the case for Terminal 5

From the Chief Executive, Guild of Business Travel Agents

Sir, London is judged by 500 European companies as the top for business (October 11) and is the strongest city on communications.

This is primarily due to Heathrow being the world's largest international aviation hub. UK business benefits from this. If we are to remain number one, UK and particularly London businessmen, must make their voice heard in support of Terminal 5. This is no time to be a silent majority. A letter to the Terminal 5 inquiry inspector is all that is needed.

Yours faithfully,
D. I. REYNOLDS
Chief Executive,
Guild of Business Travel Agents,
Artillery House,
London, SW1.

Christine Buckley looks at a trading revolution

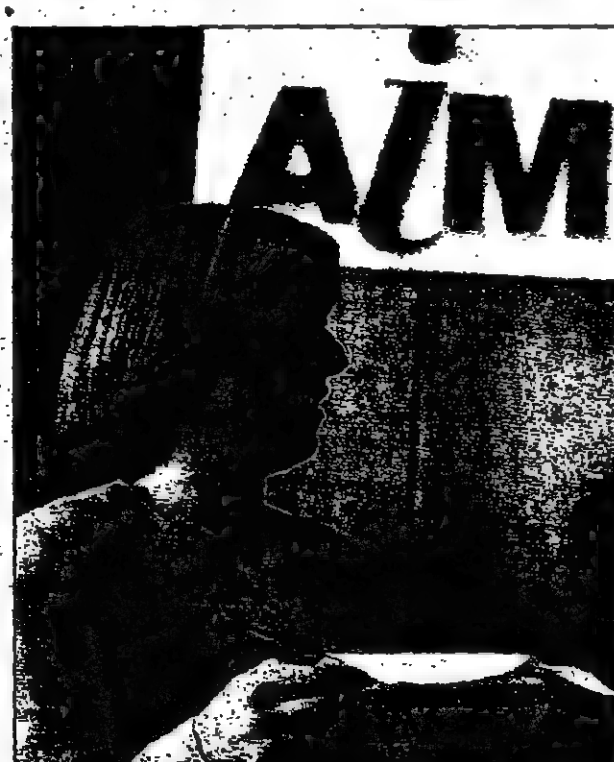
Small companies set out more stalls in the marketplace

TODAY more than 40 smaller companies will set out their stalls for some 500 fund managers who have been invited to the Company Investor Show.

It is a further forum for investors amid the growing number of exchanges springing up to specialise in the shares of smaller-sized and growth companies. The much vaunted demise of the rule 42 trading facility on the Stock Exchange for smaller companies, which occurred this month, and next year's end of the Unlisted Securities Market have done much to focus the minds of would-be trading agencies. Leaps in technology and the proliferation of PCs have made ways much easier to set up trading operations.

The Stock Exchange's replacement for the USM began in June. Since 1990 the USM had become increasingly indistinct from the main list after the implementation of European directives and the erosion of price differentials in joining fees between the two markets. The Alternative Investment Market (AIM) was launched with the intention of providing a ground for younger companies. AIM, the first new equity market created by the Stock Exchange for 15 years, has grown in popularity and influence since it began with just 10 companies. It now has 100 and is starting to attract the interest of institutions as well as private clients who have been firm backers of the growth companies.

These smaller, younger businesses, which are often venture-capital backed, offer greater scope for investment growth than do the larger stocks in the FT-SE 100 or Mid 250 traded through the Stock Exchange. Therefore smaller companies can usually go for a listing on AIM, which because of its links with the Stock Exchange is regulated, with some confidence that it will prove a fertile environment for



Theresa Wallis, chief operating officer, at the launch of the Alternative Investment Market last June

fund-raising. However, not all companies want the full market exposure and regulation that AIM requires, and not all want the expense that it entails. The demand that companies have to nominate advisers means a cost of at least £25,000.

To suit their needs and to catch hold of the growing interest in smaller stocks, a variety of operations has emerged. As their number and influence grows, they are poised to present more of an alternative share transaction movement than the Stock Exchange has hitherto seen. This may go some way to explain its tepid response to the establishment by ShareLink, the stockbroking enterprise, of dealing on the Internet.

A recent newcomer is TradePoint, a neutral order-driven marketplace that was launched in September and charges companies £1,000 a year to trade. It allows for instant publication of trading prices and volumes and enables participants to enter on an anonymous basis orders to buy or sell so it is not clear if there is one large seller of stock or several small ones.

TradePoint, which is recognised by the Securities and Investment Board, was founded in 1992 by three former employees of the Stock Exchange. Its breakeven target is a 2 per cent market share within 18 months. Its broker, Williams de Broek, believes TradePoint could have a 10 per cent stake within five years.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Ronald Cohen, of Apex, the venture capital group, is one of the prime movers of Easdaq having served on the Stock Exchange's working party to look at the successor to the USM. Easdaq will target young international companies, which it hopes will remain with it rather than moving up to the Stock Exchange. With its European base and aspirations towards bigger fund-raising, Easdaq could prove the biggest drain from the Stock Exchange of all the new markets.

rule 42 companies having made markets in them since 1991 and having started Newstrack, an information service on them, two years ago. Ofex, which enables member firms to trade "off market", now has 59 companies including one or two larger names such as Westab and, although not regulated, was started with the approval of the Stock Exchange. Ofex, which sees itself as a starter exchange according to Barry Hocken, its marketing director, whereby young companies launch themselves and then graduate to AIM or the full list, costs an initial £250. The application fee is £250 while companies have to subscribe to Newstrack at £2,000 per year.

Meanwhile ShareLink continues to expand its facilities. It launched ShareLink this month, a new issue placing service that ShareLink declared a revolutionary operation. It will enable private investors to take up stakes in new issues via a placing, a method of sale hitherto reserved for institutional investors.

Next year will see the advent of Easdaq, the European answer to Nasdaq. The European Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation system will arrive in the second half of 1996, coming from the European association of securities dealers with substantial resources, and backing from merchant banks.

Tietmeyer warning on single currency

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

JOINING a common European currency would strip individual member nations of their sovereignty over financial and wage policies as well as in monetary affairs, the president of the Bundesbank warned increasingly sceptical Germans yesterday.

Hans Tietmeyer said that for the currency to work, there would have to be sanctions against any government that breached the economic convergence tests after joining. "It is an illusion to think that states can hold on to their autonomy over taxation policy," he said in an interview with *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, the German daily newspaper.

The European currency would inevitably imply a further step towards political union under which "member states are ready to enact a common fiscal policy". Otherwise, conflicts would emerge that would be hard to resolve.

Sanctions could be triggered automatically if, for example, a nation's budget deficit exceeded 3 per cent of gross domestic product. Exceptions could be decided by a majority in the council of ministers, Herr Tietmeyer suggested, and the European central bank should also have a vote. Most EU countries, including Britain and France, would at present fail this test, a condition enshrined in the Maastricht treaty.

Echoing the ever harder line taken by German leaders in recent weeks, Herr Tietmeyer suggested that sanctions might include freezing access to EU funds. While pledging their commitment to a European currency, Herr Tietmeyer, Helmut Kohl, Germany's Chancellor, and Theo Waigel, its Finance Minister, have increasingly insisted that the terms for economic and monetary union assume German doubts over losing the mark, even at the expense of some delay beyond the 1999 deadline.

Pennington, page 27



Profits are up at Havelock Europe, said Hew Balfour, chief executive, pictured in the refurbished Army and Navy store in Victoria Street, London

Birmingham Midshires buys mortgage business

By ANNE ASHWORTH

BIRMINGHAM Midshires Building Society is now the tenth largest in the league, after the acquisition of HYPO-MSL (Mortgage Services), a centralised lender with a £1.8 billion mortgage book.

The deal, the seventeenth in five years, swells the society's assets to £7 billion. It also ousts the Yorkshire Building Society from the number ten slot.

The Birmingham Midshires move rekindled speculation yesterday that the society, in spite of its stated commitment to mutuality, would make a

suitable buy for a bank interested in developing a specialist mortgage arm.

Lloyds Bank has already set the example with its takeover earlier this year of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society.

MSL is being sold for "strategic reasons" by its German owner, Bayerische Hypotheken-und-Wechsel Bank, of Munich. Neither side would disclose the purchase price, but mortgage books currently attract a margin of 3 to 4 per cent above the value of the loans, which would suggest a

£75 million premium for the HYPO-MSL mortgage business alone.

In total, the Birmingham Midshires has spent more than £3 billion on mortgage books during its five-year spending spree. Earlier purchases included the £500 million Crédit Agricole book and the £300 million Western Trust book. With control of the book comes the right to earn interest on the loans.

Commenting on the HYPO-MSL purchase, Rob Thomas, building societies analyst at UBS, the securities house,

said: "It makes good sense, given the current state of the mortgage market. It's easier to go out to buy a book than to try to get new business."

For the HYPO-MSL's 30,000 borrowers, the arrival on the scene of the Birmingham Midshires could be good news, as, at present, they are paying a higher than average variable rate of 8.49 per cent.

This is 0.50 per cent above the Birmingham Midshires rate of 7.99 per cent, the industry norm.

The society said that it would be looking to reduce the HYPO-MSL rate, but there was no guarantee that it would be cut to the level of that of Birmingham Midshires.

For the time being, HYPO-MSL will continue to get loans from independent financial advisers. According to the Birmingham Midshires, about 6,000 new customers have been joining every year in spite of the disadvantageous rates.

HYPO-MSL employs 295 people in its offices in Bracknell, Berkshire.

Havelock helped by bank move

By PHILIP PANGLOSS

A MOVE to expand from the traditional non-food retail market to banks helped Havelock Europe, the shopping company, to a 31.7 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £2.05 million in the half-year to June 30.

Turnover, boosted by business from banks, expanded by 44.9 per cent to £22.8 million (£15.7 million). The Bank of Scotland, with the refurbishment of 16 branches in the first half and a further 43 to follow in the second half, is likely to be the group's largest customer this year. Banking work was also carried out for Co-operative Bank and the TSB.

The group is confident on prospects, with orders up by 36 per cent in the nine months to September 30. In addition, Marks & Spencer, one of Havelock's largest customers, along with Boots The Chemists, has placed the first order for its continental European stores. Other customers include House of Fraser, Dixons and Tesco.

The dividend is raised to 1.2p (up) and is payable on December 21, from earnings ahead to 5.3p (up) a share. Havelock shares firmed 5.5p to 263p.

USAir remains in profit for a second quarter

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

USAir, the struggling carrier in which British Airways has a 24 per cent stake, has managed to make a profit in the third quarter for the first time in seven years, confirming its growing financial stability after its second-quarter profit.

The net profit of \$43.1 million, compared with a \$180.1 million loss in the same quarter last year, will strengthen the company's hand in its takeover negotiations with United Airlines and American Airlines.

Two weeks ago, USAir revealed that it was in talks with both carriers that could lead to it being bought by one of them.

The return to profit will be music to the ears of Sir Colin Marshall, the chairman of British Airways. Since making its investment two years ago, British Airways has seen its value shrink dramatically and was forced to write it down by 50 per cent in May.

Warren Buffett, the US investor, also had to write down the value of his shareholding.

The sale of the airline is likely to boost the value of BA's investment and could give the British airline greater access to US markets. USAir refused to comment on the progress of the takeover talks.

Seth Schofield, the chairman and chief executive, said: "There can be no doubt that the company is now experiencing a dramatic upturn in its financial performance."

He pointed out that it was the first time in six years that the company had managed a profit in two consecutive quarters. During the past five years, USAir has lost about \$3 billion.

Mr Schofield put the profit improvement down to better operating conditions and cost reductions. He said: "These results confirm the profit potential of the USAir franchise. Many of the pieces now are falling into place that will allow us to begin realising our potential."

However, USAir still faces substantial labour relations problems, with its highly unionised workforce which could jeopardise a deal with UAL or American.

Mr Schofield abruptly resigned from the company a few weeks ago partly because of the problems of dealing with the workforce but is now staying on until USAir is sold.

Drugs tie creates \$6.5bn company

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

THIS pace of consolidation in the pharmaceuticals industry, quickened yesterday as Ivax, of the US, and Haskind, Nycomed, of Norway, merged their healthcare businesses to form the world's largest generic drugs company.

The merger creates a company worth \$6.5 billion employing more than 13,000.

The new company, Ivax Nycomed, which joins the drugs interests of Ivax and Haskind Nycomed's specialty of X-ray and diagnostic imaging, is expected to generate revenue of more than \$2.5 billion. Physically, it will be split three ways with a main office in Oslo, US headquarters in Miami and a co-ordinating centre in London.

The two companies, forging their alliance on the basis of Ivax shareholders holding 54 per cent, estimate that cost savings will yield \$100 million a year after three years.

Philip Frost, Ivax's chairman and chief executive, said Ivax Nycomed will have "the financial strength, product base, global reach, and the scientific and technical expertise necessary to excel in the rapidly changing health care industry".

Steven Asner, Haskind Nycomed's president, said: "The merger presents tremendous opportunities to enhance revenues through the registration and sale of Ivax's generic drugs in markets where Haskind Nycomed is strong, particularly in the Nordic countries."

ACCOUNTANCY

Levelling the playing field

Emile Woolf and Clive Boxer call for directors and auditors to hold equal amounts of liability cover

THE auditing profession is undergoing fundamental changes, mainly related to liability containment. Among these is the transition by big firms from partnership to incorporated status to protect partners' assets against the crippling onslaught of claims arising from audits.

While most auditors seek to mitigate potentially hazardous effects of high-risk activities, their efforts are being thwarted by the corporate governance brigade who, post Cadbury/Greenbury, continue to lumber them with duties they have no statutory brief to perform, and which serve only to widen their exposure.

Additions to published financial statements have been creeping up over the past three years. Annual reports now include a Statement of Directors' Responsibilities; Operating and Financial Review; Statement on Corporate Governance and compliance with the Code of Best Practice; and, soon to be introduced, a Statement on Effectiveness of Internal Control and a Report of the Remuneration Committee. It is intended that reviews of the last two and the Corporate

Governance Statement should be formally reported on by the auditors. Reviews of other statements and the Directors' Report, are required under SAS 160, the Auditing Standard governing additional information included with financial statements.

The extra fees earned from this review work will be scant compensation for having to fight a writ for negligently confirming the effectiveness of internal controls just before the company is brought down by fraud from its own top dog!

Misdirected litigation Executive management, usually the most appropriate target for plaintiffs in cases involving corporate loss and damage, have remained curiously immune from action in spite of widespread insistence by plc directors that the company buys it directors' and officers' indemnity cover which, is cheap compared with auditors' PI cover. For big firms such cover is not merely costly but largely unobtainable for many layers.

Public perceptions will not change overnight, but auditors themselves could do far more to achieve an even



Emile Woolf says non-executives should carry extra insurance

playing field. Incorporation is a positive step but hardly the whole answer. A pro-active approach, that would pay long-term dividends, would be for auditors of public interest (and hence high-risk) entities, before accepting appointment or reappointment, to insist

that the client's board should be insured for at least as much cover as the directors would expect the auditor to carry.

In the event that auditors are targeted by a plaintiff, including the client company, whose most appropriate recourse lies against the direc-

tors, the auditors' PI insurer would have an effective remedy by seeking contribution against the directors' policy. This would also deter directors from bringing spurious actions in the company's name for failures they caused.

Non-executive cover For this lateral approach to be fully effective, the non-executive directors should carry separate insurance as a complement to that enjoyed by the board as a whole, available in the event that the main D&O policy fails to respond.

Only in this way can non-executives establish their independence: it is not possible in principle to be independent of those with whom you are insured. Committees composed of non-executives will then be able to act in the knowledge that they can seek advice from their own insurers without having to alert the board's insurers pending their investigation of a potential problem.

Sensible corporate governance will ensure that those responsible for loss, rather than those who fail to spot it, should make it good. The auditors may well have to contribute, but they are rarely the main culprits.

Emile Woolf is head of litigation and insurance services at Kingston Smith, the accountant. Clive Boxer is a senior consultant at Davies Arnold Cooper, the solicitor.

Poster campaign deserves a pasting

IT WAS hard enough to grasp the embarrassment of the first poster campaign launched by the English ICA. This week it has launched its second. It is a dispiriting initiative. Normally the idea of posters going up to tell the public quite how much safer they would be were they to employ a qualified accountant would be a thoroughly praiseworthy idea. And the second slogan that the new poster campaign is using, "beware false profits", gets to the heart of it.

But there are several reasons why the poster campaign is so inappropriate and why the other accounting bodies are so irritated. The first is simple. The message being put over is also a subtle one. It is about the security of employing a chartered accountant, not simply a qualified one. The accounting bodies, and the public if they understood the lunacies involved, should tear their hair out over such nonsense at a time when the profession is in such disarray. It is as though last year's efforts to unify the UK profession through the proposals in the Bishop report had in fact started the world spinning faster. Instead of the accounting bodies moving closer in greater harmonisation as they had been doing, it now feels as though they are being spun apart and are rapidly occupying the periphery of the accounting world, rather than its centre. The idea of a poster campaign emphasising the use of the word "chartered" at a time when the certified accountants are in upriver over a name change and when the English ICA itself is in the midst of a sensitive period of attempting to merge with CIMA, the management accountancy body, seems ridiculous. But the epidemic is spreading. The profession needs to be seen as a profession rather than a disparate bunch of warring factions and the last thing anyone needs is more unilateral proposals on regulation, for example. Yet last week we had another set of proposals for providing regulation and supervision.

Last year both the English ICA and the Scots ICA started out on the path towards some sort of proposals. The English produced a good framework very speedily, only to have its plodding council send the work back for lengthier and less independently-minded drafting. Meanwhile the Scots were working on a similar blueprint. But by the middle of the year, ludicrously, both the Scots

and the English published very different proposals. Now we have proposals from the certified accountants for "a new supervisory body which would oversee regulation of the accountancy profession".

It almost does not matter what the detail of the proposals contains. The three main auditing bodies are now working quite separately on the same problem. This might be fine if the problem was peripheral, but regulation is not — it is a very urgent business. It ought to bring the accounting bodies together, working in harmony against a common enemy. Instead we have three learnt reports which struggle, with differing effectiveness, towards a common solution.

The process of putting the three reports together and producing a coherent plan which would satisfy practitioners, critics and the Department of Trade and Industry alike has only one certainty in its progress. It will take a long, long time.

In many ways nothing has been learnt. In the days when the professional bodies were responsible for their own standards, six separate technical committees representing each of the accounting bodies laboured through drafts and constitutions before attempting to merge the results and promulgate them through a profession-wide accounting standards committee. At the end of the process each of the bodies still had the power of veto.

The accountancy profession learnt its lesson over standards. It was painful. But the process is now totally independent of the profession, though the accountancy bodies obviously have input into the system. Perhaps the time has come for the current leaders of the profession to think back to painful experiences and realise that only a completely independent body is going to work.

And perhaps they should reach that conclusion by taking a leaf out of the Accounting Standards Board's book. Just as the ASB held open hearings on goodwill at the beginning of this month, the accountancy bodies should schedule some open hearings on regulation for early next spring. Having talked through the problems, they could then produce a unified and fast solution by early summer. That sort of agreement might even justify a poster campaign to tell the public about it.



ROBERT BRUCE

Somewhat underwhelmed

THE second tranche of the English ICA's poster campaign is exciting slightly less interest than the first. Earlier in the year, there was a sense of the bizarre about Roger Lawson, the then president, donning overalls and a bowler to put up a poster telling the world that it was "easier to sleep with a chartered accountant". This week the avuncular Keith Woodley had trouble waking up the world with the new slogan: "Nothing

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ventured, everything gained." Even his insistence that "this is something we all feel passionately about" failed to convince the world that chartered accountants are the answer.

In short

AUSTIN MITCHELL MP, was in fine form at this week's question time organised by recruitment consultant Hewitson Walker. Wearing a tie emblazoned "Mr Noisy", he

Dog's life

MITCHELL was also in good form during a tail-end question. David Lyon of Nestor-BNA noted that auditors traditionally had been referred to as watchdogs rather than

bloodhounds and asked which dog the panel thought the modern auditor resembled. Colin Sharman, KPMG senior partner, suggested a Springer spaniel because it went tenaciously about its business, but did occasionally look up to gain a wider picture. Mitchell suggested a lapdog.

Great escape

MARTIN SCICILUNA, Touche Ross's chairman, is fur-

ious over the speed of implementation of Stock Exchange rules based on Greenbury's recommendations. "Corporate governance overload," he expostulated on hearing that the SE is insisting on remuneration committee procedures appearing in reports and accounts for periods from December 31. Or it could be sour grapes that KPMG's first accounts, due January, escape.

The telephone number of Porpoise Books — publishers of You simply hit them with an axe — is 01628 22387.

ROBERT BRUCE

Bluebird soars after world deal with Disney

By Philip Pangalos

SHARES in Bluebird Toys soared 96p to 366p yesterday after the toys group announced a key product development and marketing deal with Walt Disney Company and Matsui, the US group.

In what analysts see as a potentially huge deal, Bluebird, whose existing products range from Polly Pocket miniature dolls to Mighty Max monster toys, will develop and market a range of miniature collectable playsets and toys for Disney.

The new range will be based on Disney's portfolio of classic and film characters, including Mickey Mouse and the Lion King, and will be launched in

early 1996. Bluebird will develop the products and distribute them in the UK and Ireland, while Matsui, which has a long-standing distribution arrangement with Bluebird, will supply them throughout the rest of the world.

The new toys will be made in China and are likely to reach the UK market around March before being launched in the US and globally by the end of June.

Torquill Norman, Bluebird's chairman, said the deal gives Bluebird the opportunity to develop miniature toys based on the Disney characters. He said: "Our strategy is to develop and market products for the international marketplace. The Disney characters are leading worldwide brands in themselves and provide us with a wide range of concepts to which we can apply our proven skills."

The lucrative Disney deal is timely for Bluebird as its Mighty Max boys brand, which enjoyed more than £20 million of sales in its first year, is fading fast after five years on the market. Polly Pocket remains strong, with its retail sales value now estimated at £90 million a year worldwide, while prospects are promising for Bluebird's new, Mimi and the Goo Goo range of toys.

However, the prospect of new miniature versions of unisex toys ranging from Mickey Mouse and friends to the Lion King and Pocahontas characters will almost certainly set a re-rating of Bluebird shares.

Richard Hickinbotham of SBC Werburg said: "Very clearly, this is an absolutely superb move for Bluebird, with substantial benefits arising from a Disney brand which has reinforced its leading worldwide position in the field of high-quality competitively-priced miniature toys."



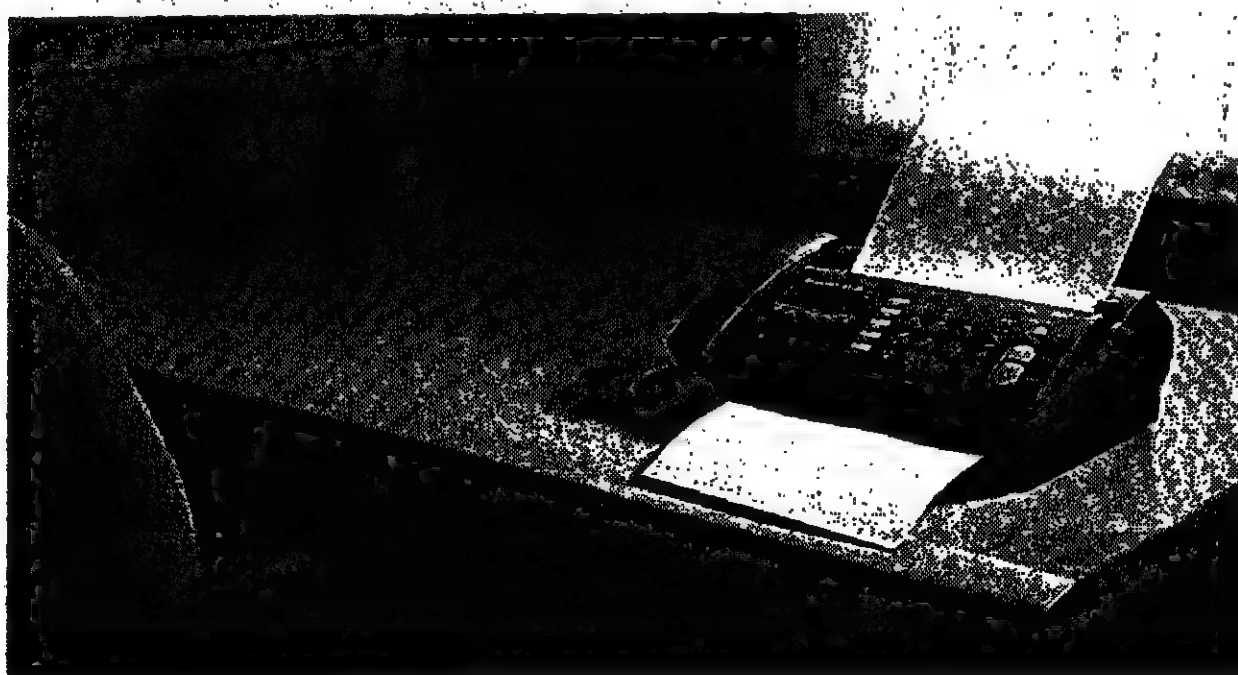
Playtime: Peter Woodhead, Disney executive, left, and Chris Burgin, Bluebird chief executive

Double sale for Fisons

FISONS, the pharmaceuticals company subject of a £1.83 billion takeover by Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, the Franco-American group, has completed the long-delayed sale of Cortin Matheon Scientific in the US and Fisons Scientific Instruments in the UK, the distribution businesses within its laboratory supplies division (Martin Barrow writes).

The buyer is Fisher Scientific, which is paying \$300 million, representing \$300 million in cash and the assumption of \$75 million in debt. Completion comes less than one week after Stuart Wallis, chief executive of Fisons, conceded defeat in the takeover battle. Rhône-Poulenc Rorer secured victory by increasing its bid from 240p a share to 265p.

Save valuable time between 9 and 5. Stop feeding.



No, of course we're not talking about bacon rolls, croissants and cheese sandwiches. We're talking about sheets of A4 paper.

You see, a UX fax machine from Sharp has a 15 page multi-sheet feeder, so there's no need to stand there watching over it. Simply place your document in the tray, press a button then press on with something else.

It also has automatic fax/phone changeover, which instantly determines between a voice and a fax call then adjusts accordingly. That way, your important customers will always be greeted by a friendly voice, not an unfriendly 'beep'.

Even if you're not around, the UX can be hooked up

to your answer machine. So you can receive messages, phone calls and faxes all on one line.

And don't worry if you haven't got a brilliant memory. The UX fax has. It can store up to 15 of your most-used numbers then automatically dial them at the touch of a button.

Why not save yourself some valuable time with a Sharp UX fax? Call free now on 0800 262958 quoting ref XTBI and we'll feed you some more information.

SHARP
INTELLIGENT THINKING

Profits at Ford dive 68% as sales fall

FROM RICHARD THOMSON
IN NEW YORK

FORD, the second-largest car maker in the US, reported a 68 per cent drop in profits for the third quarter as sales declined in its home markets.

The fall from \$1.1 billion last year to \$357 million this time was steeper than the stock market had expected and is the worst of the big three carmakers' results. Chrysler reported a 46 per cent profit fall for the last three months, while General Motors reported a 16.4 per cent rise.

Ford blamed the drop in profits on lower production and lower US sales, which fell 12 per cent to 869,000 vehicles, adding that new models had not yet reached the public. Net income for US operations fell 66 per cent to \$187 million from \$553 million.

Alex Trostman, chairman, said: "This is clearly a transition period for Ford. We are in the process of launching a new wave of industry-leading new products. There will be costs associated with this record launch."

Among the new models is the revamped Taurus which has cost hundreds of millions of dollars to develop.

The higher costs helped to produce a loss for the company's worldwide operations of \$201 million, compared with a profit of \$619 million at the same time a year ago. Its financial services arm, however, reported record profits of \$558 million compared with \$505 million last year.

None of the car manufacturers has forecast a sharp upturn in profits in the foreseeable future.

Flextech sells cable TV in UK

By Martin Barrow

FLEXTECH, the US-owned media group, has disposed of its cable television interests in Britain through the sale of IVS Cable Holdings to KPN-Kabel for £62.6 million.

KPN-Kabel is a subsidiary of KPN, the primary postal and telecommunications company in The Netherlands.

Under the sale agreement with Kabel, Flextech will receive about £59.3 million in cash. The businesses sold hold licences to provide cable television and cable telephony services for four franchises in

Oxford, Stafford, Andover, in Hampshire, and Salisbury, Wiltshire. The franchises cover a total of 216,000 homes.

Flextech, which is majority-owned by Telecommunications, the largest US cable operator, said the sale continues its strategy of focusing on programming and providing thematic channels in Britain and continental Europe. It has acquired a 20 per cent stake in Scottish Television and has interests in 13 satellite channels.

Flextech is to commission £6 million of

programming from Scottish TV over three years. As part of the £26 million investment agreement, Scottish took a 20 per cent stake in HTV, the ITV company for Wales and the west of England.

IVS also owns a licence to provide cable television systems on Jersey. That franchise is held by a 50:50 joint venture subsidiary of IVS. Flextech said it is currently considering the divestment of its interest in Jersey Cable.

Flextech shares fell 8p to 470p yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Forth Ports bid wins Port of Dundee

FORTH PORTS has emerged as the preferred bidder for the Port of Dundee, defeating a rival offer by Caledonian Ports, a consortium comprising managers and employees of Dundee in association with Clydeport. The Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Transport have formally approved the offer by Forth, which is worth £10 million, on the recommendation of the Dundee Port Authority. The net purchase price, which includes the purchasers' and vendors' expenses of £1.35 million, will be paid in cash from the company's existing resources.

The Port of Dundee consists of more than 1,400 metres of wharves and 83,000 square metres of warehouses and transit sheds. Investment in new equipment amounted to £2.7 million in the three years to the end of 1994. Total turnover last year amounted to £5.3 million, while operating profits were £945,000. At the end of the last financial year net assets were £9.3 million.

Bridport-Gundry ahead,

BRIDPORT-GUNDRY, the specialist textiles and aviation products group, is optimistic after improved efficiencies and organic growth led to a 77 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £1.34 million in the year to July 31. Turnover grew 4.7 per cent to £28.4 million. David Sebire, chairman, said: "I am confident that we shall be able to build on this renewed strength especially as the new financial year has started well." A final dividend of 2.22p is payable on January 17, giving an improved total of 3.6p (3p), from earnings ahead 40 per cent to 8.64p (6.16p) a share. The shares added 13p to 148p.

Dobson Park disposal

DOBSON PARK INDUSTRIES, the mining equipment company, is raising £4.9 million by selling a property, formerly used to make roof supports, at Ashchurch, Gloucestershire, to Caradon Duralex. After the creation of Longwall International, Dobson Park's core mining equipment subsidiary, the roof support manufacture has been consolidated at Wigan. Dobson Park hopes to sell other properties with a total net book value of £7 million. Shares were unchanged at 124p yesterday, against the bid price of 110p.

Purchase for BNB

BNB RESOURCES, the recruitment, training and consumer communications group, is buying Goodman Graham, a human resources company specialising in the information technology and communications sectors. An initial £3 million is payable on completion, with further payments of up to £4 million due over three years. Future payments will be reduced if profits fall below £1.5 million before tax in the year to September 30. Goodman Graham's clients include Digital, Compaq and Teknekron Software Systems. The company has offices in London and Radlett, Hertfordshire.

SRH buys newspapers

SCOTTISH RADIO HOLDINGS is diversifying into the regional newspaper market with the acquisition of Morton Newspapers in Northern Ireland for £11.2 million. Morton is the principal publisher of local newspapers in Northern Ireland, with 26 weekly titles, comprising 20 paid-for titles and six free. The consideration includes £6.7 million in cash and the balance in SRH shares. Despite the acquisition, the company said that it remains committed to commercial radio, where it will consider further acquisitions and apply for new licences advertised. SRH shares rose 1p to 298p.



COLLECT 30 TOKENS TO WIN £20,000 - PLUS SAVE 10% ON THIS HOLIDAY

Win a tour of Sri Lanka

EVERY DAY until the end of December, The Times and The Sunday Times, in association with Cox & Kings, are offering readers the exclusive chance to win one of 80 holidays for two to a range of destinations throughout the world.

Readers can also enjoy an exclusive 10 per cent discount off all 80 featured holidays and enter our prize draw competition to win £20,000 to spend on an 80-day holiday of a lifetime. Destinations to be featured include Syria, Nepal, Brazil; cruises to Tobago and Grenada; holidays in Singapore and Thailand, and trips to Chicago and California.

HOW TO WIN £20,000

Collect 30 of the differently numbered tokens which will appear every day in The Times and The Sunday Times and you can enter our prize draw to win £20,000 cash. Readers may collect 60 tokens for two chances to enter the draw. An entry form to attach the tokens to will appear in The Times every Saturday.

WIN A HOLIDAY IN SRI LANKA

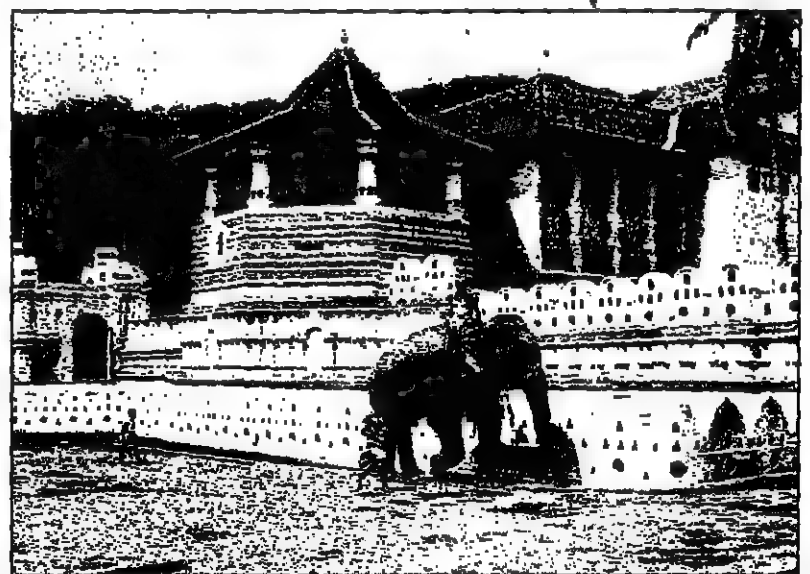
Today's prize is an 11-day holiday for two people to Sri Lanka, worth £1,500. Sri Lanka has magnificent beaches, ancient historical and religious sites, national parks, virgin rainforest and rare flora and fauna. The holiday includes a visit to an orphanage founded to rescue baby elephants or elephants which have been injured and abandoned, a trip to Nuwara Eliya, once the favourite hill station of British tea planters and to Dickoya, the place where Adam is said to have first set foot on earth after being cast out of heaven. From Adam's Peak the tour takes in a short jungle journey to the national park and Sinharaja forest reserve.

HOW TO SAVE 10 PER CENT

The tour is operated by Cox & Kings, the world's oldest travel company and a leading specialist in tours to India. For details of how to get your 10 per cent discount on this holiday, call the brochure hotline on 01369 70 77 11.

THE TIMES
Around
the World
in 80 Days
£20,000
TOKEN II

ITINERARY
Day 1 Fly to Colombo with Emirates Airlines via Dubai. Day 2 Transfer to the Taj Samudra, a four-star hotel overlooking the beach and set among acres of



garden, for a one-night stay. Day 3 Drive up to Kandy and stay two nights at either the lakeside Mahaweli Reach Hotel or the Topaz Hotel, at the top of a hill outside the town. Afternoon tour of the city visiting the Temple of the Tooth of Lord Buddha, the botanical gardens and the lake followed in the evening by a cultural dance performance. Day 4 Drive to Pinnewala Elephant Orphanage. Day 5 Drive to Nuwara Eliya and stay one night at either the St. Andrews or Grand Hotels. Day 6 Drive to Dickoya where a room will be available at the Upper or Lower Glencairn Bungalows while the day is spent exploring. After dinner there will be a moonlight walk to the base of Adam's Peak for the long climb to the top to wait for the spectacular sunrise. Day 7 Descend Adam's Peak and drive to Embilipitiya for one night at the Centuria Inn. Safari in Udawalawe national park, habitat for deer, crocodile, wild buffalo and herds of elephant. Day 8 Tour Ratnapura, known as the "city of gems" because it is the gem centre of Sri Lanka and stay two nights at the Ratnaloka Tour Inn on a

rubber estate. Day 9 Explore the dense jungle of the Sinharaja Forest where 231 species of flowers have been recorded. Day 10 Drive back to Colombo and stay at the Airport Garden Hotel until your departure for the airport. Day 11 Early morning flight to London.

DATES OF DEPARTURES

Jan 19; Feb 16; Mar 15; Apr 5; Aug 16; Sep 13; Oct 11; Nov 15; Dec 20, 1996. Prices from £715, down from £795 include all flights, nine nights twinshare accommodation, air-conditioned transport, transfers, sightseeing, a local escort, breakfast. ● The winner of Tuesday's holiday to India was Mrs Wendy Putton of Newbury, Berkshire.

HOW TO WIN TODAY'S PRIZE

To win today's holiday answer the questions below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34 which will be open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply. 1. Where is Adam said to have first set foot on earth? 2. Where is the elephant orphanage? Calls are charged at 38p per minute (cheap rates and 40p at all other times).



TOMORROW: WIN A HOLIDAY TO BRAZIL

1995 High Low Company				Page				1995 High Low Company				Page			
BANKS				BANKS				BANKS				BANKS			
577	413	Admiral	568	+11	51	42	314	132	80	Admiral	100	30	32	114	114
578	414	Admiral	569	+12	52	43	315	133	81	Admiral	101	31	33	115	115
579	415	Admiral	570	+13	53	44	316	134	82	Admiral	102	32	34	116	116
580	416	Admiral	571	+14	54	45	317	135	83	Admiral	103	33	35	117	117
581	417	Admiral	572	+15	55	46	318	136	84	Admiral	104	34	36	118	118
582	418	Admiral	573	+16	56	47	319	137	85	Admiral	105	35	37	119	119
583	419	Admiral	574	+17	57	48	320	138	86	Admiral	106	36	38	120	120
584	420	Admiral	575	+18	58	49	321	139	87	Admiral	107	37	39	121	121
585	421	Admiral	576	+19	59	50	322	140	88	Admiral	108	38	40	122	122
586	422	Admiral	577	+20	60	51	323	141	89	Admiral	109	39	41	123	123
587	423	Admiral	578	+21	61	52	324	142	90	Admiral	110	40	42	124	124
588	424	Admiral	579	+22	62	53	325	143	91	Admiral	111	41	43	125	125
589	425	Admiral	580	+23	63	54	326	144	92	Admiral	112	42	44	126	126
590	426	Admiral	581	+24	64	55	327	145	93	Admiral	113	43	45	127	127
591	427	Admiral	582	+25	65	56	328	146	94	Admiral	114	44	46	128	128
592	428	Admiral	583	+26	66	57	329	147	95	Admiral	115	45	47	129	129
593	429	Admiral	584	+27	67	58	330	148	96	Admiral	116	46	48	130	130
594	430	Admiral	585	+28	68	59	331	149	97	Admiral	117	47	49	131	131
595	431	Admiral	586	+29	69	60	332	150	98	Admiral	118	48	50	132	132
596	432	Admiral	587	+30	70	61	333	151	99	Admiral	119	49	51	133	133
597	433	Admiral	588	+31	71	62	334	152	100	Admiral	120	50	52	134	134
598	434	Admiral	589	+32	72	63	335	153	101	Admiral	121	51	53	135	135
599	435	Admiral	590	+33	73	64	336	154	102	Admiral	122	52	54	136	136
600	436	Admiral	591	+34	74	65	337	155	103	Admiral	123	53	55	137	137
601	437	Admiral	592	+35	75	66	338	156	104	Admiral	124	54	56	138	138
602	438	Admiral	593	+36	76	67	339	157	105	Admiral	125	55	57	139	139
603	439	Admiral	594	+37	77	68	340	158	106	Admiral	126	56	58	140	140
604	440	Admiral	595	+38	78	69	341	159	107	Admiral	127	57	59	141	141
605	441	Admiral	596	+39	79	70	342	160	108	Admiral	128	58	60	142	14

[illegible]

RENAULT
CARS
WITH FLAIR

1999 UK Company									
Code	Company	Share	Price	Dividend	Yield	1998	1999	2000	2001
001	British Airways	100	120.00	1.00	0.83	119.00	120.00	121.00	122.00
002	British Petroleum	100	110.00	1.00	0.91	109.00	110.00	111.00	112.00
003	British Telecom	100	100.00	1.00	1.00	99.00	100.00	101.00	102.00
004	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
005	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
006	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
007	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
008	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
009	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
010	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
011	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
012	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
013	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
014	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
015	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
016	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
017	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
018	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
019	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
020	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
021	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
022	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
023	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
024	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
025	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
026	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
027	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
028	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
029	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
030	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
031	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
032	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
033	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
034	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
035	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
036	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
037	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
038	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
039	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
040	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
041	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
042	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
043	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
044	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
045	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
046	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
047	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
048	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
049	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
050	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
051	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
052	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
053	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
054	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
055	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
056	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
057	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
058	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
059	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
060	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
061	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
062	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
063	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
064	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
065	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
066	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
067	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
068	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
069	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
070	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
071	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
072	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
073	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
074	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
075	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
076	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
077	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
078	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
079	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
080	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
081	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
082	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
083	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
084	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
085	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
086	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
087	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
088	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
089	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
090	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
091	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
092	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
093	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
094	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
095	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
096	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
097	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
098	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
099	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
100	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
101	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
102	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
103	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
104	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
105	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
106	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
107	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
108	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
109	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
110	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
111	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
112	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
113	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
114	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
115	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
116	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
117	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
118	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
119	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
120	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
121	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
122	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
123	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
124	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
125	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
126	British Virgin Islands	100	10.00	1.					

مجلس الامم المتحدة

INFORMATION SERVICE

Paying £750+ on
household insurance
Save up to 30%.

To dramatically reduce your annual premiums and obtain wider cover, contact Hiscox, specialist insurers of higher value homes and contents.


HISCOX
INSURING THE FINE, THINGS IN LIFE

0645 16 20 12

Time relevant only until breach of contract

Bovis Construction (Scotland) Ltd v Whittling Construction Ltd
Before Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Lloyd of Berwick and Lord Hoffmann (Speakers October 12).
In a clause purporting to limit damages for, among other reasons, non-performance of a construction contract time was relevant to the performance during its existence but once it was determined by repudiatory breach, of whatever nature, time ceased to have relevance. Thereafter damages flowed from the repudiation resulting in non-performance and the need to provide for substitute performance.

A clause limiting liability should state clearly and unambiguously the scope of the limitation and would be construed with a degree of strictness, subject not to the extent as an exclusion or indemnity clause.

The House of Lords so stated in dismissing an appeal by the defendants, Whittling Construction Ltd, from interlocutory orders dated January 28, 1994 of the First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session (Lord Hope, Lord President, Lord Allanbridge and Lord Mayfield), allowing a reclaiming motion by the pursuers, Bovis Construction (Scotland) Ltd, against interlocutory orders dated February 11, 1993 of Lord Prosser, the

Lord Ordinary (Note 1993 SLT 1241).

The Lord Ordinary had held that the terms of the sub-contract between the parties relating to limitation of damages applied to the claim for damages made by Bovis against Whittling. The judges of the First Division had held that they did not.

Mr Roy Martin, QC, and Mr G. J. B. Morrison, both of the Scots Bar, for Whittling; Mr G. N. H. Emrie, QC and Mr J. R. Doherty, both of the Scots Bar, for Bovis.

LORD JAUNCEY said that Bovis were the management contractors employed by Glasgow District Council to construct a new contract hall. All the work of construction was sub-contracted to package sub-contractors of whom Whittling were one. It was their task to construct the east and west frames of the building.

The relevant conditions of the sub-contract were set out in Bovis' printed form of sub-contract and in five letters passing between the parties. Two letters dated July 6 and July 8, 1988 contained the limitation clause.

The relevant conditions of the printed form were: "1. Sub-contractor's undertaking: The sub-contractor will provide upon and subject to the following conditions everything which is necessary for the execution and completion of the sub-contract works in accordance with all drawings, specifications and/or instructions supplied to him

and will deliver up the sub-contract works to Bovis, complete in every particular to the satisfaction of Bovis and of the architect or engineer appointed under the principal contract.

"2. Progress and Completion: The sub-contract works are to be commenced within 14 days after the sub-contractor is instructed to proceed and are to be completed within the sub-contract period subject only to such fair and reasonable extension of time as Bovis shall allow where the sub-contract works are delayed by causes which result in an extension of time under the principal contract. The sub-contract works are to be carried out diligently and in such order, manner and time as Bovis may reasonably direct so as to ensure completion of the main works... If the sub-contractor is in breach of the foregoing he shall, without prejudice to and pending the final determination or agreement between the parties as to the amount of the loss or damage suffered or which may be suffered by Bovis in consequence thereof, forthwith pay or allow to Bovis, and Bovis may deduct from any moneys due or becoming due to the sub-contractor..."

Condition 10 provided for the determination of "Whittling's" employment if (a) they failed, within seven days of notice in writing from Bovis, to proceed diligently with the sub-contract

works to the reasonable satisfaction of Bovis and (b) they failed upon notice from Bovis to commence remedial work to any defective workmanship or they failed to proceed with such work with diligence or to complete such remedial work.

The limitation clause contained in the letters was, inter alia, as follows: "...we the representatives of Glasgow District Council to discuss your proposals regarding the limitation of damages to be set against the main frame packages."

The district council would not accept the limitation of damages which arose through your non-performance by way of failure to meet the requirements of the specification etc and wished to maintain their rights to pursue you for all costs in this respect through your sub-contractor and its insurers. However, in respect of time related costs they were prepared to accept the limit for damages set by you of £100,000. This acceptance is given with the proviso that you accept a set limit to your entitlement to recover damages of £100,000 against other package contractors Bovis... or the various members of the design team should their actions result in you incurring costs which again would be time related."

On January 16, 1989 Bovis wrote to Whittling that Whittling's action in substantially reducing the site resources was such that they were not proceeding diligently with the sub-contract works and it had placed them in breach of contract under clause 2 and that in accordance with clause 10(1) Bovis gave notice that Bovis would summarily determine their employment.

On February 17, 1989 Bovis wrote to Whittling stating that as it was apparent that they had no intention of trying to rectify the breach they were terminating their employment.

On February 28 Bovis raised the present action claiming damages of £2,741,000 in respect of Whittling's breach of contract. Whittling's fifth plea-in-law was that their liability to pay damages "in respect of the breach of contract" was limited to the sum of £100,000 in terms of the parties' contract, decree should be limited accordingly."

Turning first to clauses 1 and 2, there was no doubt that the Lord President was correct in concluding that clause 1 was a general clause to which clause 2 was subordinate. A sub-contractor who dragged his feet and then left the site before the sub-contract was completed might be in breach of clause 2 for failing to carry out the works diligently but he was undoubtedly also in breach of clause 1 for failing to deliver up the completed works to the pursuers.

In the present case, Whittling, by their repudiatory breach in failing to proceed diligently after receipt of notice under clause 10(1) necessarily disabled themselves from performing their obligations to complete the works under clause 1. Nevertheless, it was said that time was relevant to the performance of a contract during its existence but once the contract was determined by a repudiatory breach of whatever nature time ceased to have relevance. Damages thereafter flowed from the repudiation resulting in non-performance and the need to provide for substitute performance.

The two sentences were not, as was contended, however they intended to cover all possible breaches of contract by Whittling. If the words "time related costs" covered damages flowing from a repudiatory breach resulting in non-performance odd situations could arise.

A clause limiting liability should state clearly and unambiguously the scope of the limitation and would be construed with a degree of strictness, albeit not to the same extent as an exclusion or indemnity clause. The clause in the present case was not so clear. It was, in fact, a clause which was intended to limit the liability to the sum of £100,000 in terms of the parties' contract, decree should be limited accordingly."

Whittling had wholly failed to show that the second sentence of the limitation clause was so framed as to cover damages flowing from a repudiatory breach on the part of Whittling, placed in their part leading to termination and hence non-performance of the sub-contract.

Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Lloyd and Lord Hoffmann agreed.

Solicitors: Morrison Skirrow & Co, Dundee; Edinburgh; MacRobert, Edinburgh.

Lloyd's damages subject to income tax

Deeny and Others v Gooda Walker Ltd and Others
Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Saville (Judgment October 5).
Damages recovered by Lloyd's members against managing agents and member agents for the negligent conduct of the names underwriting business were subject to income tax.

The Court of Appeal so held by a majority. Lord Justice Saville dissenting in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the defendant members' agents from a judgment of Mr Justice Potter (The Times January 19, 1995), in favour of the plaintiff names. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

Mr Bernard Eder, QC, Mr Philip Baker and Mr Simon Bryan for the defendants; Mr Geoffrey Vos, QC, Mr John Walters and Mr David Lord for the plaintiffs; Mr Ian Glick, QC and Mr Laurence Henderson, QC for the Revenue.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that the appeal raised the question of how damages should be treated for tax purposes in the hands of plaintiffs to whom they had been awarded.

That question had been considered and answered before but in other contexts. The context in which the question arose in the present case differed from that of any of the earlier cases.

The judge, however, applied principles laid down in earlier cases to the facts of the present case, upholding the arguments of the plaintiffs, supported by the plaintiffs.

1. That damages recovered in the plaintiffs' action against the defendant managing agents and member agents were subject to income tax under Schedule D in the plaintiffs' hands and

2. That such damages were not to be reduced by the amount of any tax saving achieved by the plaintiffs in connection with their Lloyd's underwriting business.

Most of the members' agents but not the managing agents, who were classed as "other" agents, were underwriting agents who advised names on the choice of syndicates, placed names on syndicates and gave them general advice.

Managing agents were underwriting agents who managed syndicates, underwriting contracts of insurance at Lloyd's on behalf of the names in their syndicates and reinsuring contracts of insurance.

The plaintiffs suffered heavy underwriting losses as members of syndicates in 1988, 1989 and 1990. They sued the defendants, claiming damages in tort and in contract for the failure by the defendants to exercise reasonable skill and care in conducting the business of underwriting on behalf of the plaintiffs.

In October 1994 Mr Justice Phillips awarded damages to the plaintiffs against the defendants (The Times October 7, 1994). Their Lordships were told that the value of that award was of the order of £300 million.

Sensibly, the Revenue were joined by consent to argue the tax issue before Mr Justice Potter. Mr Glick told their Lordships that that was the first time that the issue had arisen in relation to a dispute over damages, not being a tax appeal.

The charging provisions were to be found in sections 1 and 18 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. In consequence of those provisions income tax was chargeable under Case 1 of Schedule D, as set out in the Act, on the annual profits or gains accruing to any person, whether resident in the UK or not, from any trade carried on in the UK, or if that person resided in the UK, elsewhere.

Those profits or gains were the surplus of the revenue receipts of the trade over revenue expenditure wholly and exclusively laid out or expended for the purposes of the trade, see section 74(1)(a) of the 1988 Act.

In relation to the taxation of Lloyd's names, section 171 of the Finance Act 1993 provided:

"(1) Income tax for any year of assessment on the profits arising from a member's underwriting business shall be computed on the profits of that year of assessment.

"(2) As respects the profits arising to a member from his underwriting business for any year of assessment - (a) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (b) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (c) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (d) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (e) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (f) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (g) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (h) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (i) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (j) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (k) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (l) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (m) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (n) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (o) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (p) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (q) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (r) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (s) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (t) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (u) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (v) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (w) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (x) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (y) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (z) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (aa) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ab) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ac) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ad) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ae) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (af) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ag) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ah) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ai) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (aj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ak) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (al) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (am) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (an) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ao) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ap) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (aq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ar) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (as) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (at) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (au) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (av) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (aw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ax) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ay) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (az) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ba) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (be) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bi) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (br) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bs) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (by) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (bz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ca) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ce) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ch) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ci) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ck) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (co) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cs) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ct) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (cz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (da) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (db) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (de) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (df) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (di) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (do) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ds) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (du) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (dz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ea) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ec) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ed) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ee) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ef) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ei) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ej) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ek) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (el) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (em) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (en) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ep) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (er) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (es) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (et) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (eu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ev) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ew) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ex) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ey) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ez) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fa) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fe) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ff) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fi) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fs) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ft) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (fz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ga) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ge) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gi) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (go) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gs) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (gz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ha) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (he) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hi) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ho) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hs) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ht) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (hz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ia) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ib) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ic) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (id) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ie) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (if) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ig) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ih) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ii) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ij) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ik) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (il) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (im) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (in) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (io) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ip) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ir) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (is) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (it) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ix) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (iz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ja) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (je) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ji) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (js) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ju) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jy) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (jz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ka) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ke) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ki) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (km) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ko) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ks) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ku) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ky) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (kz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (la) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ld) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (le) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (li) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ll) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ln) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ls) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ly) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (lz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ma) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (md) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (me) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mg) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mi) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ml) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mo) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mp) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mq) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mr) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ms) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mt) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mu) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mv) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mw) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mx) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (my) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (mz) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (na) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nb) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nc) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nd) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ne) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nf) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ng) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nh) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (ni) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nj) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nk) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nl) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nm) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nn) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (no) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (np) the aggregate of those profits shall be chargeable to tax under Case 1 of Schedule D; (nq) the aggregate of those profits



■ FILM 1

The crude and unfunny slapstick of *Nine Months* isn't what the career of Hugh Grant most needs



■ FILM 2

... but another Englishman, Michael Radford, strikes a delightful note with his *Il Postino*



■ FILM 3

Saved by a touch of self-mockery, *Mortal Kombat* is the latest video-game spin-off to hit the big screen



■ FILM 4

... while the diverting *Clueless* delves lightly into the lifestyles of rich kids in Beverly Hills

CINEMA: Geoff Brown finds Hugh Grant buried up to his floppy fringe in the Hollywood hokum of *Nine Months*

Sent down for gross decency

Oh, Hugh! Whatever misadventure you may have committed with a woman acquaintance in a car off Sunset Boulevard pales beside the heinous crime of starring in *Nine Months*. This was the film that was set to open two weeks after Grant's little thing hit the headlines. Unfunny, grotesque, and painfully disjointed, the comedy about an unexpected arrival in a couple's life never begins to work.

Who can we finger for the crime? Not Grant himself: by making a cartoon of the floppy-haired Englishman who attended four weddings and a funeral, he was simply following Hollywood's desires and pursuing a limited character to its dead end. No. The man chiefly responsible is Chris Columbus, writer and director of this and *Home Alone*, although we should not forget Patrick Bronte, the Frenchman whose film *Neuf mois*, a local hit last winter, gave the American offering its plot.

Nine Months
Odeon West End
12, 103 mins
The Hollywood machine swallows Hugh Grant

Il Postino
Cannon Mayfair
11, 108 mins
Heartwarming delight from Italy

Mortal Kombat
Warner West End
15, 101 mins
Kritik-proof movie of the video game

Clueless
Fins, 12, 98 mins
Frisolous fun with Beverly Hills teenagers

Canadian Bacon
MGM Piccadilly, PG, 95 mins
One-joke comedy from Michael Moore

The nine months, of course, refer to a pregnancy. Grant's partner in the film, Julianne Moore, is overjoyed. Grant is not on bearing the news he craves his beloved red Porsche. Indeed, he is so appalled by the prospect of putting tiny feet that you wonder how he survives in his job as a child psychologist in San Francisco.

Still, the man has nine months to reconsider time spent in an excruciating jumble of heavy slapstick and sentimentality, gaudy nightmares about a praying mantis, coy sex, and crude footing with Robin Williams (cast as a Russian obstetrician more familiar with monkeys than humans). Columbus never appears to care about linking one scene with the next: he just throws ingredients at the audience and trusts some will hit home.

By the time Moore comes to term, parenthood has been enthroned and domestic bliss is imminent. But what of Grant? Any charm he might possess has been squeezed out by the Hollywood machine, and the little shots of Hugh rollerblading, or Hugh getting his ears pierced, are scarcely enough to create new endearments. Time he returned home for a refit.

After the crass comedy of *Nine Months*, *Il Postino* offers such sweet balm that its faults almost



Julianne Moore and Hugh Grant as the expectant young couple in *Nine Months*, cast adrift on an extremely unfunny sea by writer-director Chris Columbus

seem insignificant. Yes, the storyline ultimately shreds into pieces. Yes, the shooting style is plain, sometimes to the point of dullness. But this is a film with a heart and soul; a film keyed to the wonderful performance by actor and director Massimo Troisi as a fisherman's son on an island off Naples who discovers wider horizons delivering post to the exiled Chilean poet Pablo Neruda.

The director is an Englishman, Michael Radford, who showed his love of things Italian in his first feature *Another Time, Another Place* 12 years ago. Radford had wanted to use Troisi then, as one of the Italian POWs far from home in the Scottish Highlands. By the time the two teamed up on *Il Postino*, Troisi was seriously ill with heart disease; he died, in fact, only 12 hours after shooting finished.

"This movie is my life," he told Radford, "and I want to give it the last bit of my old heart." His sickness does not particularly show on screen, but it lends a special poignancy to the tale of Mario, a simple, shy man opening up like a flower in spring.

The year is 1952. Neruda, out of favour with Chile's authorities, has been granted sanctuary in Italy. He

arrives in the person of a dubbed Philippe Noiret. Piles of letters from admirers await; Troisi and bicycle are enlisted to clear them.

The film's core lies in the scenes between the two men. Friendship builds slowly. Neruda at first is aloof, condescending; but the postman's dog-like devotion, his ingenuity about the post's Communist beliefs and the stuff of poetry, win him over. Since Neruda is renowned as the poet of love, Mario is keen to use his new knowledge of lyrical metaphors to woo the voluptuous local barmaid. A smile "spreads like a butterfly"; a breast becomes "a fire with two flames". Throughout, Troisi's bashful hesitations and sweetness of character are a joy to watch.

Once Neruda's exile ends, the film begins to lose focus. The old tenderness returns when Mario tape-records local sounds to send as a memento to his idol: sounds of waves, the wind, a baby's heart-

beat. The plot's final steps are too hurried and arbitrary to round off the film with the proper flourish, but audiences should be bathed in enough warmth not to feel peeved.

Radford, scarcely heard from since his 1987 feature *White Mischief*, does not try anything fancy. His simplicity of approach and compassion recall the neo-realist films of Vittorio de Sica, whose ghost also danced through *Another Time, Another Place*. No Tarantino, then; but in today's madhouse you need a few quiet voices, prepared to take time and watch their characters grow.

Back to bedlam with *Mortal Kombat*, the latest video and arcade game to reach the big screen. Novices may find the ground rules difficult to follow, though if you cut away the baroque detail you are left with a blunt, noisy, violent fight between good and evil. In the good corner stand three earthlings, a hesitant expert

in martial arts, a vainglorious actor, and a tough-minded girl with a useful fondness for figure-hugging clothes. On the bad side lurks an army of extra-terrestrial bores under an evil sorcerer's thumb. At stake is the fate of the entire world.

How much humour is planned, how much accidental. No famous names decorate the rest of the cast, for no names are needed. This is not a film about people: this is about violent visual sensation, and multimedia marketing.

"What did you do in school today?" Dad asks. The blonde bombshell daughter thinks: "Well, I broke in my purple daps."

Clueless bounces along with similar exchanges as it explores the lifestyles of Beverly Hills kids, for whom school is a brief intermission between trips to the mall.

Amy Heckerling, the writer and director (see interview below), began her spotty career 13 years ago with another teen movie, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*. Her ear is still close to the ground: you cannot fault the lingo or body language of the dizzy girls led by Alicia Silverstone, previously best known for bungee-jumping off a bridge in an Aerosmith music video. After firing its opening shots the movie settles for frivolity, not satire. The film could be better; and it could be much worse.

Heckerling has one strength as a comedy director: she knows how to shape performances. Michael Moore does not, and it is painful to watch the documentary maverick of *Roger and Me* make such a botch of his actors in *Canadian Bacon*. All seem left to their own devices, and most of the devices are not funny. Not that Moore's script helps. He begins with an outlandish notion: itching for a foreign adventure after the Cold War's demise, America starts strafing Canada with insults. But any delight at stray lines of dialogue is quickly tempered by the crudity of Moore's satire and the monotony of a one-joke film. The subtlest joke lies in the casting: the late John Candy, playing the Niagara Falls sheriff who leads skirmishes across the border, was Canadian himself.

VISIONS OF AFRICA

Highlights of the Royal Academy's current show



Bearded male figure, Egypt, c. 3800-3400 BC, Brescia

Stone statuettes such as this are derived from a mysterious class of objects known as "tuskis". They take their form from the incisor of a hippopotamus, and they are often found in graves, where they might have been used to ward off evil spirits. They usually appear in pairs, one hollow, the other solid, and their possible coupling is indicative of a fertility ritual.

Jane Austen goes shopping

Amy Heckerling tells Matt Wolf how *Emma* made her *Clueless* a surprise summer hit in America



Amy Heckerling at work: "*Emma* was my structural tree"

You can't really walk into a Hollywood studio and go "Jane Austen," and have them see dollar signs," says director Amy Heckerling, explaining the disguised provenance of her very American and contemporary *Clueless* in the sedate 19th-century England of Jane Austen's *Emma*. While other film adaptations of novels trumpet literary sources, Austen's 1816 novel is nowhere to be found in the credits for *Clueless*.

Presumably, references to Austen were kept to a minimum during the pitch so as not to put the movie in turnaround, to employ the filmspeak jargon gracefully unknown in Austen's day. "During what we call development hell, the thing is to incorporate the notes you're getting from the studio people while trying not to ruin what you want to be doing," Heckerling says. "*Emma* was my structural tree for myself to do some sort of comedy of manners."

The choice of *Emma* as a blueprint permitted fresh variations on a genre not exactly known for its literary virtues. "You say 'teen comedy' and you think OK, what should it be a bunch of sex at parties, or that the girl gets the boy at the end? It has to say something, and *Emma* lays it all out so wonderfully. It's about someone who realises the world is best if she just leaves it alone a little bit."

"I re-read the novel," Heckerling continues, "and everything fell into place. Every time I would run into trouble, I would just read it again and go, you know, all the answers are here. That sense of class and the social dynamic — these are the people we hang with, these aren't — holds up. But," she says of the book, "it was very much not a selling point."

Whatever its origins, *Clueless* emerged as one of last summer's unexpected surprise successes in America — a modestly budgeted film (some \$15 million) that to date has grossed about \$55 million in America alone.

The result has made British-born teenage star Alicia Silverstone one of Hollywood's hottest "babes", while reviving the career of its director, now 43, a graduate of New York University and the American Film Institute.

Prior to *Clueless*, Heckerling was best known for the first two *Look-Who's Talking* films, a pair of win-

"WHAT A DELIGHT!"
A GORGEOUSLY FUNNY AND TENDER STORY WITH MARVELLOUS PERFORMANCES. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
ANGIE ERRIGO - PREMIERE

"AN UTTERLY ENCHANTING ROMANCE"
ANYONE WHO LIKED 'CINEMA PARADISO' WILL LOVE IT.
RON DRISCOLL - EMPIRE



IL POSTINO
(THE POSTMAN)

STARTS TOMORROW

MGM GATE METRO RITZ
AT SELECTED CINEMAS FROM NOV 3RD

CHOICE 1

Christoph von Dohnanyi conducts the Philharmonia in Mahler's Fifth

VENUE: Tonight at the Festival Hall

CHOICE 2

Britten's Czech connection is explored in an Aldeburgh festival

VENUE: Until Sunday at Snape Maltings

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 1

Son of Man, Dennis Potter's controversial 1969 play about Jesus, is fitfully revived by the RSC

THEATRE 2

A Jo'burg slum is the setting for Marabi, a powerful account of life on the bottom rung

Pottering around the gospel truth

Son of Man
Barbican Pit

I am a Pontius Pilate man myself, rather than a Simon Peter one, or a Jesus of Nazareth man. But it is far from clear where Dennis Potter aligns himself in the stage-play he adapted from his BBC television script in 1969.

One does not have to be a Christian to find the character of Jesus Christ abidingly interesting. Any man who has exerted for so long and so powerfully an influence on other men's minds deserves close scrutiny, particularly since we possess so few verifiable facts about his personality. When the scales fell from Paul's eyes on the road to Damascus they fell onto the body of Jesus and obscured him from our sight for ever.

Under the old censorship laws, British dramatists were prevented from showing Christ in the theatre, and when the Lord Chamberlain's blue pencil was snatched from him, in 1968, Potter was the first writer to take advantage of the new dispensation.

As the title implies, this version of Christ is a man merely. Potter introduces no miracles into his story, nor does he find a place for the Last Supper. His Christ is a carpenter who, possibly after an epileptic fit, comes up with the shattering message that men must love their enemies. By presenting us with a society oppressed by a society, the injustice is given its vivid, extraordinary and, some will think, nonsensical quality.

But this production does not simply give us Potter's view of



Joseph Fiennes as Jesus, about to be betrayed, in the Royal Shakespeare Company staging of Potter's *Son of Man*

events: it is Potter altered, though I cannot say how greatly, by the director, Bill Bryden. The original cast list reveals characters who have since vanished — a dove seller, a leper (was there once a miracle, or a healing, or a failed one and another crucified Jew? Something of his last incident may be surviving in the scene where Joseph Fiennes's Jesus is moved, by the sight of an unrepentant cross, to contrast God's tree with the purpose to which men have put it.

After the opening, set in

Hayden Griffin's realistic carpentry shop, the eight workmen are pushed together and planks fitted firmly on top to create a cruciform platform, on which most of the subsequent action occurs. For much of the time Bryden marshals the cast sensibly, creating effective tableaux with the disciples at the centre of the cross or towards the back.

But the two trial scenes are atrociously staged. Caiaphas was looking at Jesus for a long time, and I expect Jesus was doing something or other, but my section of the audience had

no idea what, obscured as he was by the unmoving bulk of two temple priests. Blow me! Two Roman soldiers didn't replace them when it was Pilate's turn. No director should be permitted to show such contempt for his audience.

Fiennes's performance accurately gives us what Potter seems to have wanted, an uncommon man of the people who believes himself inspired by his God yet never certain that he truly is the Messiah. It is a feverish, breathless reading, effective in these terms

although, in seeking to convey charisma, both playwright and actor cross into demagoguery. John Standing's intrigued, intellectual Pilate and the Caiaphas of Philip Locke, his resonant voice soaring and plunging, are strong, credible interpretations. But after watching Jesus's protracted crucifixion, with no writing spared, there is still nothing to explain why this visionary inspired a religion that has lasted almost as long as the cults of Ancient Egypt.

JEREMY KINGSTON

From tribes to dives

Marabi
Theatre Royal, Stratford East

This is one of the main theatrical offerings of the Africa 95 season. Would that there were more. Set in the 1930s slums of Johannesburg, Marabi is delightfully adapted by Malcolm Purkey's workshop production. It is a warm celebration and sharply critical appraisal of Dorothea's bottom-rung black culture, both vibrant and rich, caught between the still-respected tribal customs of the farmlands (abandoned after the dispossession of Land Act) and the next generation's attraction to the Marabi music clubs. Those clubs, rough and ready but red-hot, are the subject of scorn, admiration and argument, mor-

ally loose or maybe leading to a glittering career in black-tie jazz that some see as getting on, others as selling out.

With long-matured skill and spiritual freshness, the company depicts the story of the Mabongo family and their friends, ranging from the unrepentant Makhalima to Ntsebeane, a drunken but scintillating Marabi pianist. Presenting the struggles between workers and their white masters and between patriarchal Mr Mabongo and his daughter Martha, a potential star singer, the cast talk jazz and politics in the same animated breath, just as they lay spoken scenes with a capella songs.

True, some *nécessités*, especially with Martha's sweetheart, are too flatly hurried. At the other end of the spectrum comes some pretty broad caricaturing of home-brewed leglessness and little-girl romping. But the ensemble work is beautiful and the comic exaggeration bursting with high spirits.

Marabi's triumph is its effortless interlocking of pointed political lessons with generous comedy. Joann Littlewood would be proud. The Stratford East audience, terrific as always, whoops approval. This is Poor Theatre with polish.

KATE BASSETT

Overblown nightmare

Fragments of a Dream
Riverside Studios

Why, Kate Bassett asks, do the worst plays always come with the sound of slow ticking? As the room temperature soars, the dramatic tension sinks to new lows and Tom Minter tortured us with yet more poetically overwritten, psychologically crude monologues in his new play concerning the maddening guilt of a son-obsessed mother and the uncharismatic serial killing by a magician. Both of them happen to end up in the same sanatorium 20 years on from the death of the mother's little boy, stabbed in a trick sword-box at his birthday party. Minter's drama is about punishment and mercy.

The characters' encounters, as the title suggests, could be a cerebral fantasy seen in flashes. The opening scene of the mother, Alicia, lavishing affection on her boy and quarrelling with her jealousy-bristling husband turns out to be in her unhappy mind.

We next see her woken by a caring nurse. Alicia's late husband is now the cruel personification of her conscience. Regrettably, the concept of imagination is clumsily managed. During that first scene, Alicia in conversation with an invisible child looks like a desperate casting decision — even if, in my opinion (Richard Harbert) is doing a convincing enough impression of insanity. Many scenes are (mercifully) brief, potential dream-fragments were not for the chunking scene-changes.

Nevertheless, Bruce Adolph Minter's basic backdrop, a patchwork of fading grey squares, creates a suitably grim, mindscape against which (an Alicia's white-gloved conjurer, with his sunken face and cranked check suit, is vaguely nightmarish.

Minter's writing is not without hope. There are some surprising plot twists, an incipient lyrical beat and a stylistic boldness. The large cast, though struggling, do get into their stride.

But this piece is a bizarre muddle of pseudo-Shakespearean turns ("Come, stupid murderer", near-gothic melodrama ("Damn you, mother") and a modern hospital drama, with the Nurse embarking on lectures in religious-medical ethics whenever she passes Mabong in the corridor. Minter's dialogue is unbelievable. Our dreams are peopled by more frighteningly real human beings.

LONDON

CYRANO First night of previews for Edward Ross's belated love story, relocated to colonial India in a co-production with Tara Arts. Indian stage and screen star Muzumdar Shah plays the dishevelled hero with the extravagantly large nose. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 10.30pm, Sun 7.30pm, Mon 7.30pm, Tue 7.30pm, Wed 7.30pm, Thu 7.30pm, Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE FAIRY QUEEN English National Opera offers a new production of Purcell's dazzle as its contribution to the composer's bicentenary celebrations. The team of director David Pountney and designers Robert and Danya Ramon should provide quite a spectacle for a piece that lacks the framework of a modernist opera. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

PHILHARMONIA PREMIERE Richard Rodney Bennett follows up his recent cabaret success at Pizza on the Park with tonight's premiere of *Panama* for Orchestra. Christopher von Dohnanyi conducts the programme, which includes Mahler's Symphony No. 5. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE First performance by the Warburton Theatre, Banbury and Mark Dwyer in Tennessee Williams's classic play of love, hope and shattered dreams. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE HYTHAGORAS Assisted by a troupe of a mysterious obsession, Harold Pinter is meticulously honed, heading the strong cast in his long-running play. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE NEW BIBLE (18) A sensitive boy's childhood in the American Bible Belt. Directed by John Ford. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE NIGHTWATCH (18) A surreal nightmare gets the better of a man with a few classed trappings. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

SPECIES (18) A mutant heroine causes havoc in L.A. Nasty, fat, hooded creature features, with Patricia Richardson and Sean Pertwee. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WILD BUNCH (18) When Holder's outlaws have one last, bloody day, Sam Peckinpah's classic Western of 1969, released with new trailers. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

WIGS (18) A hilarious comedy about the world of hair. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

ELSEWHERE ALDEBURGH: The focus of this year's Britten festival is the extraordinary tradition that produced Strindberg's *The Father*. Venue: Snape Maltings, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON Derek de Lint's latest, *The Wind*, is a powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

CINEMA GUIDE

A daily guide to cinema compiled by Kris Anderson

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THEATRE 1

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THEATRE 2

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THEATRE 1

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THEATRE 2

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.

THE WIND (18) A powerful account of life on the bottom rung. Venue: The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7.30pm.



MUSIC 1

Uptempo story: aspiring maestros from around the world battle it out at the Bernstein competition



MUSIC 2

True to his falsetto: top counter-tenor Michael Chance on ENO's new Purcell staging

THE TIMES ARTS



DANCE

And all that jazz: Orphy Robinson supplies the music for Phoenix's new work at the Wells



TOMORROW

Alan Jackson on the mix of pop-star glamour and kitchen-sink realism that is Human League

Richard Morrison on the battle of the batons at the Bernstein conductors' competition in Jerusalem

And the winner is ... a clone

Find the new Leonard Bernstein for this impossible mission we gathered in Jerusalem last week to watch a jury of 14 top orchestral musicians and music administrators evaluate 17 of the world's most promising young conductors. Each was given a 50-minute rehearsal to rant, rave, plead and enrage in front of the long-suffering Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

This was the first Leonard Bernstein Jerusalem International Conducting Competition, a title which itself might win a prize for reducing unemployment among adjudicators. Held in a city that Bernstein loved perhaps more than any other, the competition was backed by many of the great musical ensembles closely associated with him (including the London Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna New York and Israel Philharmonics and the Concertgebouw Orchestra) as well as the maestro's record companies.

Each sponsoring organisation pledged to give work to the winner, as well as to any other conductors that caught the eye. And the promise of dates with such illustrious bands as the Vienna Phil, rather than the cash prize of \$25,000, is probably what attracted such a high level of entry. The irony, perhaps, is that Bernstein himself never entered any sort of competition. He never needed to; his was the classic "lucky break" (stepping in to conduct a live broadcast of a New York concert when Bruno Walter fell ill, and he was seized with such dazzling flash that his client was instantly assured).

What did Bernstein need to see about the capabilities of his young conductors? The answer was good and bad. Most of the 17 finalists (whittled down from 253 applicants from more than 40 countries) are already conducting their own orchestras, or holding assistant-conductor posts with some of the biggest American orchestras, and they could boast terrific technique: confident, precise and clear, even under pressure. And the proceedings were presided over by the jury — rather unusually — sat right behind the orchestra, glancing sideways at the contestants.

But then, if young conductors crumble under this sort of pressure, they are not going to be much good in front of a truculent British orchestra on a wet Monday morning in Henry Wood Hall. Competitions are artificial, certainly, but that very artificiality tends to exaggerate flaws in personality and technique. "I remember the first conducting competition I ever watched," said Humphrey Burton, Bernstein's biographer. "The jury consisted of Klemperer, Giulini, Boult and Walter Legge. One contestant was so traumatised that he never conducted again."

If technique was impressively displayed last week, however, the young conductors were far less good at conveying their own personalities or investing their interpretations with character. When they stopped the music, it was mostly to fuss over detail, rarely to impose some "big idea". And few could command a really telling verbal metaphor to infuse the players' imagination. "Fifty minutes is a long time to rehearse if you have nothing to say about a piece," one judge observed.

Yet among the six conductors who made it to the last round — where each rehearsed and performed a work revealed to them only on the previous night — there was real talent. The Russian, Andrey Boreyko, who has been chief conductor of the Poznan Philharmonic in Poland for three years, did detailed work on Beethoven's *Eroica*, but then started to bully the players unpleasantly, shouting "boring, boring" at the violins (which it was, actually), and then screaming "more" at the climax.

It reminded me of Beethoven's famous rebuke to the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a live broadcast of Shostakovich's Second Symphony: "Idiot, you faggots!" But Bernstein, who was right enough to buy the orchestra and probably the BBC as well, is hardly a useful role model for a young conductor today.

In a comical contrast was the doll-like Shuang Guo from China. She moved her arms beautifully, she looked charming, and she was clearly well-schooled. A Western orchestra, with an eye for box-office glamour, should snap her up. But she had nothing striking to say about Mozart. More interesting was a Lebanese-American, George Pehlivanian, who tried to turn the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra into a stylish Haydn ensemble in 60 minutes: he failed honourably, but he is a musician to watch.

It was the English conductor David White, however, who really set the competition alight with his charmingly idiosyncratic performance of Bernstein's *Divertimento*, and his disarmingly witty rehearsal manner. Who is David White? You might well ask, since this Doncaster-born lad has been shamefully neglected by the orchestras and opera companies of his own country, and has made his career almost entirely in Midwest America. That must change. He deserved to win but did not, presumably because he was too nice to the players.

NEW YORK SYMPHONY
conducted by **LEONARD BERNSTEIN**

VITAL MUSIC old and new
expertly performed under a
STIMULATING YOUNG CONDUCTOR

AT NEW YORK CITY CENTER
131 WEST 55th STREET F. H. LA GUARDIA, Pres.

OCTOBER 8th THRU APRIL 1st
1945-46 SERIES OF CONCERTS
12 MONDAY EVENINGS at 8:30
6 TUESDAY EVENINGS at 6

Youngful promise: Leonard Bernstein seized his lucky break to become an unstoppable young star

Which left two other Far Eastern finalists. The Taiwanese conductor Wen-pin Chien, fast-rising through the ranks of German opera houses, is a competent professional, though his overblown performance of Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony was flattered by its runner-up ranking. Even more surprising, to my ears, was the choice of the Japanese conductor Yutaka Sado as the winner. He made a Schumann symphony sound as bombastic as a Sousa march, and exhibited all the Bernstein mannerisms (he was one of Bernstein's favourite pupils) but little of Bernstein's innate musicality. Also, he grunted loudly as he conducted: a Monica Seles of the podium.

Still, half the fun of a competition lies in disagreeing with the jury. Sado is probably on the verge of a massive career: he certainly has the full repertoire of melodramatic gestures at his disposal. But the grunting must stop.

Philip Taylor's elliptical and dark *Haunted Passages*, set to Britten's *Lachrymae*, has been revived for Phoenix's current tour, and justifiably so. At the Wells, the last performance of Pamela Johnson, Stephen Derrick and Ricky Holgate captured the intense mix of hope and desperation in the angular and spidery choreography.

From Pastoral to pyrotechnics

HAVING said that he was not sure about presenting Beethoven's Sixth and Seventh Symphonies in the same concert — both second-half items in his opinion — Sir Simon Rattle went on to demonstrate what congenial programme companions they can be.

He did, however, take risks. There was little danger in the *Pastoral* Symphony, expansive and unhurried though the interpretation was. In the third programme he is giving in Birmingham, London and Frankfurt, Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra are thoroughly at ease with the stylistic requirements and unconcerned by all but a few of the technical problems involved.

The radiance in the strings, the purity of the wind sound, the naturalness of the phrasing — the actual playing was itself attractive enough to sustain interest in an interpretation which, though it undervalued neither the harmonic inspirations in the slow movement nor the dramatic intervention of the storm, could only momentarily be

CBSO/Rattle
Symphony Hall,
Birmingham

jolted out of its basically leisurely preoccupations. The risks were in the Seventh Symphony after the interval. For once, with quality of sound less and less of a priority as the performance went on, the decision to open the doors to the reverberation chambers in Symphony Hall made complete sense: the superficial textural confusion in the finale was obviously a deliberate element in an interpretation where an extreme of pressure was to be applied to celebrating the vertiginous progress of the work and where all caution was eventually abandoned. It was one of those performances which, as the reaction of the cheering audience afterwards confirmed, cut right through concert-hall convention to a basic instinct for a cumulatively rhythmic momentum.

GERALD LARNER

Grisly bears

COMPARED with its younger competitors, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, formed in 1956, has a curiously old-world way about it. The players creep reluctantly on to the platform, take unsmiling bows, and offer a programme of unremitting austerity.

Perhaps they were merely dispirited by the chemistry of a sparse programme on a meagre audience. Whatever the case, their playing, under the discreet direction of Constantine Orbelian, was stern and undemonstrative.

At times this was refreshing in its grave honesty; at times it verged on the drab. Their founder-conductor, Rudolf Barshai, had arranged five of Prokofiev's piano miniatures, *Visions fugitives*, and the orchestra's fine individual discipline and corporate listening skills re-created a nicely the sad shudder of a waltz, the brittle verticals of ferocity, and the mordant motifs of the ridiculous.

In Barshai's famous arrangement of Shostakovich's Eighth Quartet the composer's motto theme rose darkly deep, creeping through

Moscow CO/
Orbelian
Queen Elizabeth Hall

each voice with a shiver at its heart. When the theme is muted and accelerated into anxiety, the strings carefully avoided any brightening of tone: when the motto is transformed into a sinister *Ole Inne*, it was all the more telling in its numb understatement.

This sense of stern discipline and a determined rejection of attention-seeking carried over into Tchaikovsky's more spirited and flamboyant *Souvenir de Florence*. Italy seemed little more than a distant mirage: this was the voice of Mother Russia, dutiful in counterpoint, loyal and unanimous in chorus, soulful in song.

The tiny, tick-tocking Haydn *Serenade*, which they played as an encore, was Haydn as Buster Keaton — and the players took a silent, wry farewell.

HILARY FINCH

Michael Chance is giving *The Fairy Queen* a new old voice, says John Allison

Purcell under the counter



Chance: "This sort of voice has become fashionable"

Those who go down to the Coliseum tonight are in for a big surprise, at least those who know their *Fairy Queen*. Purcell's "semi-opera", based rather loosely on A Midsummer Night's Dream, has been staged in countless different ways. But for his first return to English National Opera in almost two years the company's former director of productions, David Pountney, has devised a new scenario which includes characters with such on-Shakespearean names as Juliet, Caroline and Dick.

The last of these is one of six archetypal mortals who journey through the fairy realm, and he will be sung by one of the world's leading counter-tenors, Michael Chance. With several performances and recordings of *The Fairy Queen* to his credit, Chance is enthusiastic about Pountney's approach. "The new plot echoes A Midsummer Night's Dream, but is transferred onto Purcell's music without any dialogue at all. Since the piece works so well in concert form, I think this is a wise decision. It hangs together beautifully, and makes a much more palatable evening."

In ENO's new version, the counter-tenor does not get all that many arias. "The distribution of parts between the high tenor and low alto is always a problem area in music of this period, and particularly in this piece. Here I'm part of an ensemble. But I love the music. I sing the energy and inventiveness in this piece are staggering. Chance is glad to have sung a lot of Purcell in this tenor-year, but cautious: "Associating the counter-tenor voice with Purcell is tricky. It was always thought he sang counter-tenor, but recent scholarship has suggested that descriptions of a Chapel Royal service in which he took part

had been misread. Very few of his songs have the right counter-tenor range."

Was Purcell "The Greatest Genius We Ever Had"? "I think it's all right to hype him up in his year," and in the pantheon of great English composers he is certainly up there with Elgar and Britten. His range is a mark of his genius; he's very similar in that respect to Britten. Indeed, it was with Britten's music that the fortunes of the modern counter-tenor changed. The operatic roles of Oberon (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Apollo (*Death in Venice*) were a breakthrough.

"Until then the repertoire was much more limited. But much as I enjoy singing Oberon, I think we've come a long way since then in terms of ideas about the counter-tenor voice. Oberon sings beautiful music, but it is all slow, spooky and disembodied, and has led

Away from the operatic stage, the counter-tenor voice has suddenly gained popularity, as such phenomena as the recently-recorded *Three Counter-Tenors* spoof and a new movie about the celebrated 18th-century castrato Farinelli suggest. "I think it's wonderful that this sort of voice has become fashionable. Some may see us as being grotesques, but for many, especially women, the combination of the male appearance and a more feminine sound is very attractive. There is a caressing way in which the counter-tenor phrases. I don't think it has got anything to do with campness, or is a sexual thing."

For Chance, singing so high comes naturally. "When my voice began to break, I dropped down to the alto line in the school choir and stayed there without thinking about it. I've hardly ever sung at 'normal' baritone pitch, not even in the shower — it uses different muscles." From school Chance went as a choral scholar to King's College, Cambridge, where he read English but found enough time to work in the straight theatre and in opera-society productions.

"I've always loved theatre, and one of the reasons I enjoy doing opera so much is that in this country we've got so many imaginative minds at work on the lyric stage, not least in the Baroque repertoire. Fortunately, we've got past presenting Handel as oratorio in drag. His music is strong enough to take most things, and I think Purcell's is, too. Having seen a lot of Pountney shows, I'm enjoying working with him. This *Fairy Queen* is visually interesting. The audience will be constantly entertained, if not occasionally baffled."

● The *Fairy Queen* opens at the London Coliseum (0171-632 8300) tonight

Bold move trips up on the steps

In one of the most ambitious undertakings in its 14-year history, Phoenix Dance Company has teamed up with the British jazzman Orphy Robinson for the big new work of its 1995-96 season. Robinson has composed the music for *Movements in 8*; his band and vocalists share the stage with the dancers — the first time the Leeds-based company has performed with live music and singers. The work highlights the change in the company's status, from a regional all-male fringe outfit in its early incarnation to the viable national contemporary dance company it has become today.

Whether *Movements in 8* bears equal significance in its own right is another question. Robinson has written a freiform jazz-funk suite that takes inspiration from African rhythms but is infused with a wide range of musical flavourings. The choreography that partners it is the result of a collaboration between Phoenix's artistic director, Maggie Morris, and her assistant, Gary Lambert. In this case, two heads are not better than one. *Movements in 8* meanders through varying moods, slides in and out of focus, the product of a seemingly wayward attention span.

Starting with a sequence that finds all of the dancers swaying in the kind of hypnotic self-absorption one would find at a drug-induced rave, the piece moves on through athletic tumbling and whirling turns into a terrific display of individual virtuosity. With these daredevil solos the piece picks up pace and variety, so badly needed after the bland predictability of what has gone before: women pre-

DANCE

Phoenix
Sadler's Wells

tending to be sexy, men playing aeroplanes, and everyone trying to prove they are "in the groove". This is not the fault of the dancers. I hasten to add, who give the work more commitment and personality than it gives them.

Philip Taylor's elliptical and dark *Haunted Passages*, set to Britten's *Lachrymae*, has been revived for Phoenix's current tour, and justifiably so. At the Wells, the last performance of Pamela Johnson, Stephen Derrick and Ricky Holgate captured the intense mix of hope and desperation in the angular and spidery choreography.

But the unexpected surprise of the evening was Chantal Donaldson's *Never Still* (sponsored by the Halifax Building Society), which opens the triple bill. Donaldson is a Phoenix dancer; this is her second choreographic commission for the company. In *Never Still* the strange sound world of Hugues Le Bars sets her off on an energy-consuming exploration of human relationships. The six dancers spin and cartwheel their way through a range of interactions, from circumspection and watchfulness to sensual exhibitionism and sunny communal games. The movement has vivacity, velocity and a genuine group dynamic. An accomplished piece of work, indeed.

DEBRA CRAINE

Autumn Sale

Friday and Saturday only!

At least 50% reductions on stock furniture, fabrics and kilims

SALE HOURS: 9.00-6.00

GEORGE SMITH
HANDMADE FURNITURE, FABRICS AND KILIMS

587-589 KINGS ROAD LONDON SW6 2EH
Tel: 0171-384 1004 Fax: 0171-731 4451

A tale of two empires: how Constantinople fell after the Byzantine millennium, but revived in the Ottoman centuries

New Rome flourishes in old age

David Abulafia

BYZANTINUM
The Decline and Fall
By John Julius Norwich
Viking, £25

After its relocation to Constantinople, the lineal descendant of the Roman Empire founded by Augustus and baptised by Constantine lasted another 1123 years and 18 days, under persistent threat from barbarian neighbours. John Julius Norwich concludes his highly readable three-volume survey of Byzantium with its last four tumultuous centuries.

The question is not why this shrinking empire, torn apart at the centre by competing factions, finally fell to the Turks in 1453, but how it managed to last as long as it did. The answer lies in the persistence of the Byzantines' own belief in themselves, and their extraordinary ability to convince even their bitter enemies that the New Rome embodied in the Byzantine Empire was something awesome, a centre of Christian civilisation and of political authority which could impress even Muslim neighbours.

Confronted at the enormity of their own success, the Seljuk Turks failed to follow up their massive victory over the Byzantines at Manzikert in 1071. A century later they were still desperately trying to impress the Byzantines, offering a demonstration of the art of flying in the Hippodrome at Constantinople in a primitive (and lethal) prototype of the parachute that consisted of a coat with exceptionally large pockets.

Not for nothing did the Ottoman Sultan accept the Byzantine Emperor as his overlord only a few years after the Emperor had himself been obliged to pay tribute to the Turk. And not without reason did Mehmet II, conqueror of Constantinople, issue grandiloquent documents in Greek making plain that he was the new Roman Emperor; in 1453 the Roman Empire had not died, but had rather

been fulfilled, with a new, Muslim destiny.

Westerners too were much in awe of Byzantine wealth and culture, and it was with the aim of bringing aid to a beleaguered Byzantium that they organised the First Crusade at the end of the 11th century. One of the leading Crusaders, the Norman Bohemond, had already made a thorough nuisance of himself by seizing much of Albania and apparently trying to win the throne of Constantinople for his father.

The relationship between Crusaders and Byzantines was thus from the start founded on mistrust, and the tears of the Byzantines were compounded by their open lack of sympathy for a holy war to recover Jerusalem. On the other hand, crusades were launched up to and beyond 1453 in the hope that western aid could flush Islam out of the Balkans and restore the shattered unity of the Church by drawing the schismatic Greeks back under papal authority.

The Byzantine Emperor had regarded himself as Vicar of Christ long before the papacy began to make use of the term, and the subtle concepts of Greek theology and philosophy could barely be translated from the refined prepositions of Greek into the concrete crudeness of Latin. Hence the Union of the Churches never proceeded much further than a few reluctant signatures by emperors and patriarchs,



The walls of Constantinople, ruined in 1453, from James Harper's *Inside the Medieval World* (Cassell, £20)

who well knew that the Byzantines themselves had no time for papal pretensions.

The problem only grew as the Greeks in the Peloponnese, Crete and many other islands experienced ham-fisted Latin rule, after the unexpected conquest of Constantinople in 1204 at the hands of the navy of Venice and the army of the Fourth Crusade. Mutual contempt was matched by a general failure to mix in religion, social life and politics.

The imprint of these times can still be felt in the Balkans. The line dividing Croat from Serb has its remote origins in the frontier between Catholic and Orthodox Christianity. The presence of Bosnian and Albanian Muslims recalls the victory of the Ottomans in those regions and the eventual conversion to Islam that followed. The last centuries of the history of Byzantium have left an

echo that can still be heard.

John Julius Norwich is a spirited, often thrilling, guide to the intricacies of Byzantine politics and warfare, who simply proves his point that Byzantium was no Balkan backwater even in its years of crisis. He is a little dated in his scholarship; but he is at his best weighing up the virtues and vices of Byzantine emperors, whose ready use of the bowstring to strangle their many rivals shows that the methods adopted by the Turkish sultans were not particularly original.

This is a history of emperors, not of the Byzantine world in all its ethnic and religious complexity. Surprisingly for an author who has elsewhere written so evocatively of the Byzantine mosaics of Sicily, he has very little to say about the buildings, frescoes and literary achievements of late Byzantium, a period marked by what Steven Runciman memorably called "the last Byzantine Renaissance". Most extraordinary of all was the philosopher Ptochus, who toyed with the reinstatement of the Olympian gods. Byzantine intellectuals were at last becoming fully conscious of themselves as Greeks and were shaking off their fond myth that they alone were the true Romans (even if Latin had long since been abandoned). They began to celebrate their Greekness, cautiously at first, as they realised that the ancient empire they had once ruled — stretching from Ceuta in the west to the borders of Persia — now consisted solely of a vast but deserted capital, and some fragments of the Peloponnese around what is now the ghost city of Mistra. As Greeks, these intellectuals found a ready audience in Venice, Florence and Rome among those who had little interest in Byzantium, but a great deal of interest in the books Byzantium had preserved. To have remembered Homer over the millennia was no small achievement.

The Sultans' sublime port

Christopher Hawtree

CONSTANTINOPLE
City of the World's Desire
1453-1924
By Philip Mansel
John Murray, £25

Turkey is an extensive market which is opening when most others are closing," reported John Meade Falkner from Constantinople in 1904. The author of *Moonfleet* was a most unlikely battleship salesman. Dressed that blazing summer in the obligatory top-hat, frock-coat and black trousers, he was ever ready for meetings which, frequently altered, lasted "the plans of weeks, and makes carefully planned estimates into waste paper".

He did, however, have an audience with the Sultan, Abdulhathid II — reputedly the first given to a commercial Englishman since Sir John Pender on telegraphs in 1893. Curiously, the gangling Falkner did not mention that, on walking backwards from the Presence with top-hat behind him, he knocked into a pillar and crushed the hat. Even the Sultan had to smirk.

This Huiotese moment, which perhaps swung the deal, is unmentioned in Philip Mansel's elegant, 350-page history of Ottoman Constantinople (the name then most often used by Turks as well as Christians for the city that Atatürk officially renamed Istanbul). Certainly, Falkner was but one of millions who sweated it out in a city so central to politics, diplomacy and trade: its inhabitants had always feared that there would be only 30 Sultans. This one was the 28th; with the exile of the 31st in 1924, the prophecy proved almost exact. But for five centuries, the city and the Ottoman Empire had benefited from the fact that, as Mansel puts it, "no great power could hope to conquer them without arousing the opposition of the others".

Mansel's book is as much an evocation of place as an account of such shifting alliances. He does not stick

contemporary parallels and, in commenting upon historians, constrained by the plague of nationalism, that has raged since 1830, evidently relishes the city's cosmopolitanism. Time and again, tolerance — such as providing 16th-century Jews with a hole-in from Christendom — exists in proximity to brutality and backstabbing. With Gibbonian panache, he notes that on "the accession of Mehmet III in 1597, 19 of the new Sultan's brothers were taken out of the harem. They kissed the Sultan's hand, were circumcised, then strangled with a silken handkerchief." One 19th-century Sultan ordered the drowning of some 200 women from his predecessor's harem lest they are a rival.

Along this civilised and gory way, one is reminded not only of such familiar characters as Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, but also that Pushkin's grandfather was an Ethiopian bought by the ambassador in the thriving slave market, and that the rich ate only the left leg of a chicken — a certain logic had it that the bird's habit of standing on the other one must make it tough.

From the rebellion of the Young Turks in 1908 onwards, the narrative is crowded with incident. In 1914 Turkey fragmented into rival nationalist groups; a tragedy, as Mansel convincingly argues, not only for the Ottoman Empire, which collapsed after defeat in 1918, but also for its capital.

Questions for the Father of the fatherless

Karen Armstrong on an elegant study of the Judaeo-Christian God as a literary character

God is usually regarded by His adherents as a reality that is beyond time and change. He can, therefore, have no history and, unlike most other phenomena, cannot develop as He responds to events and imperatives in the mundane world. Most believing Jews and Christians claim that this immutable deity is only revealed in the pages of the Bible but in fact it derives from the works of Aristotle, whose remote God is entirely different from the passionate and vulnerable deity of the Hebrew scriptures.

In this elegant and entertaining biography of God, Jack Miles treats the Lord as though He were a literary character, whose development can be charted as the text unfolds. Although Miles is clearly conversant with modern biblical scholarship, he does not treat the various books of the Bible in the order in which they were written.

Instead he considers the Bible as a completed text whose component parts were put together by the final editors in an order that is itself significant. He bases his argument on the Hebrew *Tanakh*, which is arranged differently from the Christian Old Testament.

Believers do not usually read the Bible in this way: they tend to dip in and out of it and assume that God always behaves consistently. But, as Miles skillfully shows, this is not the case. The Lord is a unique literary character. Unlike other deities in the ancient world, He has no genealogy, no past and no private life that we know of. Because He is the only God, He has no interaction with His peers. This means that He can only learn about Himself in His dealings with humanity, particularly with His chosen people.

Thus the God of Genesis often behaves like a sleepwalker, who has little understanding of his powers, does not really know what He wants and is in control neither of events nor of Himself. Thus He regrets creating the human race and destroys it in the Flood, saving only Noah and his family. In one version of this story it is clear that He has no idea how things will turn out. Miles shows that the Lord God is a conflicted deity: He has absorbed other gods into His single personality whose characters and func-

tions are often incompatible. He is a far cry from the calm, omnipotent and omniscient God of classical theism.

God achieves greater self-awareness in His dealings with Israel. He becomes a God of war when He has to save His people from slavery in Egypt. He develops a taste for morality, an interest that He certainly did not have in the earlier patriarchal period. King David evokes from Him the desire for parenthood and He becomes a Father. Finally He learns how to love.

By following the biblical narrative in its finally edited form, Miles points out that it comes as a shock when Second Isaiah begins his prophecy by making the Lord say: "Comfort, comfort ye, my people!" Nothing in God's previous behaviour has prepared us for this tender benevolence. The Lord has been a killer, a legist and a moralist. He has been obsessed with human reproduction. But He has never before wanted to bring consolation to humanity.

There is a tendency to assume that the biblical God is consistently loving and mysterious. But like many conflicted, aggressive human beings, love does not come easily to the Lord God. Miles shows that the divine love is first evoked after His manifest failure with His people. Once again, the God of the first books of the Bible is confused and confusing but He is not unfathomable. It is only when He is on the threshold of love that the God of the Bible discovers what an extraordinary being He really is.

Finally and poignantly, God disappears from the human stage: there is much talk about God in the books of Nehemiah and Ezra but He Himself is strikingly absent. This remains true for many people in the modern world. Miles has not written a devotional book but an essentially literary study. Nevertheless, this biography does perform a valuable religious function by reminding us that we can never take the reality that we call "God" for granted nor assume that the Bible tells us exactly what He is or desires. In the *Tanakh*, the end is silence, an absence that we have to make sense of for ourselves.

Karen Armstrong is the author of *A History of God*.



Christ in the House of his Parents by Millais (1850): its realism caused a furore. From Owen Chadwick's readable and attractive *A History of Christianity* (Weidenfeld, £25)

Jesus and the time tunnel

Matthew d'Ancona

GOSPEL TRUTH?
New Light on Jesus
and the Gospels
By Graham Stanton
HarperCollins, £14.99

On Christmas Eve last year, *The Times* reported a sensational claim by the German papyrologist Carsten Thiede that three fragments of papyrus owned by Magdalen College, Oxford, were from a mid-1st century text of St Matthew's Gospel. The scraps (which bear a handful of verses from Matthew 26) had been assumed to date from the 2nd century. But Thiede argued — on the basis of complex palaeographical comparison — that they had been written no later than the destruction of the Temple in AD 70, and probably years earlier. Here, apparently, was forensic evidence that the Gospels were written by contemporaries or near-contemporaries of Jesus. It could have been read or handled by one of the "five hundred brothers and sisters" whom St Paul claims saw the resurrected Christ.

Needless to say, the academic and popular debate ignited by this claim has been intense and sometimes ferocious. The stakes in New Testament research are high, often verging on the ludicrous. Leading the charge against Thiede has been Graham Stanton, one of Britain's foremost biblical scholars. *Gospel Truth?* is a direct response to *The Times* article and a pre-emptive attack on the forthcoming book by Thiede and I.

It pains me to disagree with Professor Stanton, since (like so many others) I am intellectually in his debt. His earlier work, *The Gospels and Jesus*, remains the best primer on the complex relationship between history and Christian faith. Any layman entering this forbidding terrain for the first time is advised to read this minor masterpiece. In the much shorter *Gospel Truth?*, Stanton returns to many of the themes which he addressed in the earlier book — the historic Jesus, the purpose of the Gospels, their textual origins — and he does so lucidly and compellingly.

Yet the primary purpose of the book is essentially to refute Thiede's argument about the Magdalen papyrus and in this respect it fails. First, Stanton caricatures his opponents' position, perceiving in them a mindless literalism which is simply not

there. No serious scholar would suggest that the Gospels are "absolutely reliable" as historical sources. Proposing an earlier date for St Matthew's Gospel is not the same as claiming that every detail in that text is accurate. The point of such reassessment is to judge how long the so-called "tunnel" of time between Jesus and the Gospel writers was.

Secondly, and most damagingly for his case, Stanton is no papyrologist. His attack on Thiede's work on the St Matthew fragments owes more to hunch than to first-hand knowledge of its scientific basis. He favours the "brilliant calculations" of

another papyrologist who happens to disagree with Thiede, without explaining why. Consequently, he greatly underestimates the speed with which texts and writing styles were circulating in the Middle Eastern and Mediterranean world in the 1st century AD.

Above all, he assumes that the Magdalen papyrus must be late because it is from a 150-page codex (a primitive book) rather than a scroll. This, as any reader of Martial knows, is quite wrong. The codex was known and in use by the second half of the 1st century. There is absolutely no reason why the first generation of scribes to copy St Matthew's Gospel should not have done so using this particular form of literary reproduction. Indeed, it is probable that the adoption of the codex accompanied Christianity's break with the Jewish tradition: between AD 60 and AD 70, Stanton's counter-claim that the fragments are "certainly not from the 1st century" crumbles before him.

Matthew d'Ancona is the author, with Carsten Thiede, of *The Jesus Papyrus*, to be published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson next April.

Frances Pyfield on Rumpole's adventures in Strasbourg
Boris's beguile: Ian Fleming
Janet Atherton's last bow
Miller's thriller of the week
Gill Hornby on Freddy Raphael

Wystan, the entirely beautiful

Peter Ackroyd on the chaotic life of a poet who eclipsed his peers but never took himself too seriously

He called himself "Mother" and gave homage only to "Miss God" and "Miss History", the two female deities with whom he felt most at home. He was a homosexual who, firmly disapproved of homosexuality, and a lyric poet who once told a frustrated admirer: "If you want romance, I'm a journalist." He was dishevelled to the point of being almost dirty, a heavy drinker and a chain smoker. He was, in the language of his period, absolute bliss.

Certainly it was bliss to be born in the first decade of the 20th century, when anything and everything seemed about to happen. If Richard Davenport-Hines's latest biography is as much a history of ideas as of people, that is because it remains true to those decades of hope and despair which Auden concentrated in his occasionally didactic verse. Davenport-Hines denounces the usual biographical mélange of gossip, scandal and "sexual tale-telling". He is not one of those writers who rush into the bedroom, and the closet, at every opportunity; as a result his portrayal of Auden is sometimes a trifle dry but always alert and convincing.

Auden believed himself to have been an autistic child, immersed in visions of ice and limestone, and he really first came to life at Oxford. He was hardly an undergraduate at all but, rather, a force of nature and/or culture. He had an extraordinary exuberance, described by Cecil Day-Lewis as "vitality" and by Stephen Spender as "overwhelming cleverness". When you combine these qualities with ambition, and a fair helping of luck, you have the makings of a great writer. It is often said that he looked old, even in middle age, because he had burnt himself out; he had been fuelled for too long by red wine and benzadrine. But there was, at the beginning, an energy so bright that it eclipsed all of his contemporaries.

His contemporaries did not always enjoy the experience, of course, and there were occasions when his self-confidence lapsed into dogmatism and an almost wilful lack of interest in other people. When "Mother" pronounced his own mother, by the way, was a singularly tough and snobbish old party, the children were obliged to listen. He never stopped entertaining his opinions of himself and his day.

were generally absurd and contradictory, but that did not matter. As Thekla Clark explains in one of the many astute observations within her charming memoir, he often said things because he liked the sound of them. He enjoyed creating sentences which, like poetry, admitted no response; he relished the air of authority, even when he had nothing whatever to say. The only problem with Davenport-Hines's biography, in fact, is that he is inclined to take Auden's beliefs too seriously. They are often not beliefs at all, but dramatic recitations designed to convince himself as much as any audience.

But they have a larger context. It has been said that a genius is one

who lives in symbolic relation to the age; there is no doubt that, in his successive espousals of communism, Freudianism and Christian existentialism, Auden gave voice to the most significant concerns of his century. His famous, and for a while notorious, removal to the United States could also be seen as an emblem of what he called "the following wind of history".

Chester Kallman was, perhaps, the truest puff of it. They met soon after Auden's arrival in America, and Kallman rapidly became both muse and monster. If he had not existed, the combined resources of Ronald Firbank and Tennessee Williams could not have invented him. He first encountered Auden at a poetry reading in New York, and from the front row hissed "Miss Mess". Those were the days when it was a pleasure, rather than a painful duty, to be homosexual.

Auden in turn opened the door upon Kallman on a subsequent visit, and announced that "it's the strongest bond".

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

AS I WALKED OUT ONE EVENING

Songs, ballads, limericks and other light verse

Edited by Edward Mendelson

Faber, £12.99

Eventually, their relationship turned into an opera bouffe of the most debilitating, if diverting, kind. "Auden at moments of stress had used 'book reviewing as a public commentary on their relationship," Davenport-Hines writes at one point, "and Kallman used his position in 1945-6 as operatic columnist of *Commonweal* to retaliate." The liberty of the press had not been abused so much since the days of William Randolph Hearst.

Auden often said that he always felt the youngest person in the room, even when he was in the company of teenagers, and indeed he often behaved as if he was. This is in part related to the infantilism which seems necessarily an aspect of the greatest poets, who do, at moments of crisis or high spirits, act like big, if not always beautiful, babies. But that condition (if one may use a medical word) is also an aspect of Auden's use of language. In some of his most wonderful poetry the syllables seem to issue from him without any private or self-conscious control — on those occasions the English tradition, with all the formality of its inheritance, speaks through him. That is why Edward Mendelson's collection of Auden's "light verse" is filled with ballads, nursery songs and lullabies, which could have been sung in 18th-century theatres or pleasure gardens.

There is a passage in *The Poet and The City*, quoted by Thekla Clark, where Auden writes of "the right to play" and "the right to frivolity". In fact, it is possible that his playfulness, and his sense of humour, were his most important gifts. He never took himself too seriously — he was far too great a writer to do that — and, as a result, his work can be very serious indeed. That is why it is no good lamenting the outward conditions of his life. However depressing or disordered they might seem, they were the necessary conditions for the expression of his genius. In this context it is worth noting Davenport-Hines's remark: "The private life of a poet is... the lesser part of his existence."

During one particularly uncomfortable and messy period a friend recalls Auden intoning "an utterly idiosyncratic, absurdly eccentric version of 'count your blessings'". He had counted them. They were his collected works.



Auden: red wine and benzadrine made him age prematurely, but he never lost his youthful zest

I knew Andrew Sullivan before he was a homosexual. Back in the early 1980s, when I was a young Tory MP, a friend promised to introduce me to a clever young man who had invented (and intrigued) his peer group at Oxford. "He's one of those alluringly chaste people who probably don't sleep with anyone, of either sex," said my friend. "He's slightly fey, but not exactly. He's a bit of a tease. You'll like him."

I did, very much, when we met at dinner. Andrew was charming, something of an intellectual, and obviously principled. He had light brown hair and a playful gaze, yet the kind of reticence that almost came across as reproof. He was slightly Jesuitical in argument, but oddly — seductively — insubstantial, a natural elusiveness. All of this I saw, but I completely missed the steel. Feeling faintly and indefinably intimidated by him, supporting a certain coldness, I never followed up the meeting.

Much happened to each of us before we met again, perhaps nearly a decade later. Never greatly troubled by moral doubts over my own sexuality, I had nevertheless sorted out the fiendish practical problem of what to do about it. Andrew (it seems from this book) debated with himself more than I ever did, remained a Catholic, yet decided to become openly gay. Remember how much braver this was in the 1980s than it all seems now. He had started writing, very well indeed.

Nervously my (deeply Tory) friend said: "Andrew's stayed in America. He's become editor of an independent, conservative magazine, *The New Republic*. His lifestyle has become rather... bold. I hear he's pumping iron." Sullivan and I met for lunch next time he was over here.

I don't know about the iron, but this time I could see the steel. We were (and are) no more than acquaintances, but I admired him terrifically. I would place Sullivan in my list of A Hundred Heroes, not so much for what he's done as for where he's done it from: and for two important reasons.

First, he never stood to gain from his honesty. Always ask that about someone before you call them brave. Plenty of us have nerve — throwing down a gauntlet for the small chance of a larger prize — but when somebody gambles only on surviving, and survival would have been more certain if he had chosen not to gamble, that is brave.

Second, Sullivan did not have the natural hinterland of

In a waste of shame, spare no expense



Sullivan: does it matter if homosexuality is involuntary?

a rebel. Many of his friends were Tories, many were moral conservatives, he was a Catholic. Launching yourself as a gay activist from a left-wing base, in front of a left-wing audience — as much as launching yourself as a reactionary hero from a conservative base — guarantees friendship and support and those life-saving "three cheers"

will find it less than lucid, stimulating, penetrating and moving.

But Sullivan makes what are, in my submission, key errors of fact, of logic and of moral reasoning. Central to his argument is his contention that homosexuality is involuntary. First, I don't think that is necessarily true. Second, I don't see why it matters.

Gay men, he implies, have some kind of a window into the history of their own sexuality. And we remember that we could never have been anything but gay.

Look, I hate salami. It makes me sick, it always has. But I would not argue that humans are so constituted as to make some of us the inevitable enemies of salami. More likely we are "turned" at times and in realms which lie outside conscious memory; once turned, we diverge fast from any possibility of rejoicing the path we have left yet the moment of divergence may have been finely balanced. Dancing with women I have sometimes noticed an involuntary arousal: is something being suppressed? In intimate physical contact with other men, men who think they are completely heterosexual often experience the same. Is something being suppressed?

Sullivan thinks sexual orientation is fixed early, finally and unambiguously. For my part I believe that we are all

placed somewhere on a scale between other-sex and same-sex attraction; and that it is human conditioning which "berds" us towards the most accessible pole. If it is true that many who call themselves bisexual are actually homosexual, it is equally true that many who call themselves heterosexual are actually bisexual.

If so, then homosexuality can indeed be promoted, just as heterosexuality so reluctantly is. Why do we gay men resist the thought so angrily? If we are easy with what we are, why is it important to us that "we couldn't help it"? Does a Jew, a Catholic or a red-head need to protest that the condition is involuntary? This is to cop out of the requirement to mount a principled defence of our moral right to embrace these conditions. "We can't help it" is a demeaning argument, intended to foil the finger-waggers.

But it doesn't, anyway. We can help our actions, if not our inclinations. I do not feel the need to settle the question whether a pedagogue can help feeling attracted to children, a kleptomaniac to shoplifting or a job to assault, before I decide to outlaw the act — not the impulse.

Sullivan half-acknowledges this argument, but seems to suggest that sexuality so completely defines us that to stigmatise its expression must destroy the inner man. I don't agree. Priests manage: it is possible to stop a good deal of homosexuality by prohibition. You cannot stop it all, but there would be much more than there is if discouragement were lifted. Therefore to argue against prohibition I must assert that homosexuality is not undesirable, not wrong, not a pity, not an affliction. I must assert a moral equivalence between homosexuality and heterosexuality. I do.

That is what Andrew Sullivan is trying to avoid. Having so bravely taken on the moral Right, having wrenched himself away from Senator Pat Buchanan's anti-Sodom and anti-Gomorrah rhetoric and set out on an odyssey of his own, Sullivan now turns back for one last glance at the burning cities and tries, one last time, to form a bridge, an argument that his Church, and those he has defied, would understand. "I can't help it," he cries. "I'm virtually normal. I'm only a little bit queer." In saying this he wrecks the integrity of his case. We've both come a long way, Andrew. Don't stop here.

The Tories' toreador

Aristotle remarks, in his *Ethics*, that one cannot tell whether a life was a happy one until it has ended. Much the same is true in politics: the importance of a politician is something that cannot be judged until his or her political life is over.

The appearance of a biography even of a politician as talented as Michael Portillo is therefore distinctly premature, and Michael Gove's book (despite its manifest professionalism) bears all the marks of having been ripped untimely from the womb.

The real interest lies not in the book but in its tantalising sub-title: "The Future of the Right". Just what, if anything, is the "Right" of the Conservative Party? And does it have a future?

"Right" and "Left" are convenient labels, which help the lower sort of journalists to write articles without needing to engage in the uncomfortable activity of thinking.

In this form of journalistic, a Tory "right-winger" is someone who believes in hanging, low taxes, large armies, standards in schools, British sovereignty, hunting, reduced social security payments, family values, reform of the health service, wider censorship, automobiles and a rag-bag of other items which offend the *bien pensants*.

Upon closer inspection, however, it becomes difficult to find many clear exemplars of this "type". Alan Clark — who ought to fit the bill, if anyone does — turns out to disapprove of hunting, hanging and automobiles, and to have relaxed attitudes on the family. A large number of those most concerned about British sovereignty (Tony Benn and Peter Shore among them) are sufficiently of the "Left" to be prominent members of the Labour Party. Kenneth Clarke and Chris Patten — both robustly in favour of greater European integration, and usually described as being on the Tory "Left" — have shown themselves over the years to be equally robust defenders of low taxes, standards in schools, family values and reform of the health service. It is all very confusing for those who want to divide politics and politicians into simple-

minded archetypes of Right and Left.

Anyone seeking the truth rather than slogans needs some subtler distinctions. Among Conservatives, one can discern at a minimum: (1) the High Tories, lovers of ancient institutions and rural life, devoted to the Church of England with a nod to Catholicism, reluctantly accepting inevitable change; (2) the Patrician-paternalist one-nation Tories, trusting in the "educated classes" to act in an enlightened manner through noblesse oblige in the interests of the whole country, concerned for poverty and disliking flashy wealth, believing in geo-politics and displaying a preference for administrative standards rather than pure market solutions, as well as a relaxed attitude to social proprieties; (3) Reactionary Tories, much concerned with crime and punishment, mistrustful of foreigners, strong

on immigration controls, advocating strict public and private morality; (4) the Free-Market Tories, wary of the State and of super-states, stressing individual liberties and individual responsibility, competition and choice; and (5) the Salisbury-Thatcher Tories, combining attributes of the High Tories with attributes of the Free-Market Tories, believing that the surest foundations for the preservation of tradition and inheritance lie in institutions that enlarge personal choice and responsibility.

Against this background, the question of the future of the Tory Right is a non-question: there isn't one. And the speculation about whether Portillo will be the candidate of the Tory Right is idle: there won't be one. A far more pertinent question — but one which, alas, Gove does not even begin

to discuss — is where, in the Tory jigsaw, Portillo fits and to which elements of the party he may ultimately appeal. While it now seems that he belongs in the Salisbury-Thatcher camp, we shall have to wait decades to find out the answer.

Dr Oliver Letwin was a member of Mrs Thatcher's Policy Unit, 1983-86. He is now a director of N.M. Rothschild.

Oliver Letwin

MICHAEL PORTILLO
The Future of the Right
By Michael Gove
Fourth Estate, £18.99

on immigration controls, advocating strict public and private morality; (4) the Free-Market Tories, wary of the State and of super-states, stressing individual liberties and individual responsibility, competition and choice; and (5) the Salisbury-Thatcher Tories, combining attributes of the High Tories with attributes of the Free-Market Tories, believing that the surest foundations for the preservation of tradition and inheritance lie in institutions that enlarge personal choice and responsibility.

Against this background, the question of the future of the Tory Right is a non-question: there isn't one. And the speculation about whether Portillo will be the candidate of the Tory Right is idle: there won't be one. A far more pertinent question — but one which, alas, Gove does not even begin

to discuss — is where, in the Tory jigsaw, Portillo fits and to which elements of the party he may ultimately appeal. While it now seems that he belongs in the Salisbury-Thatcher camp, we shall have to wait decades to find out the answer.

Dear price of desire

CHARLOTTE MOORE'S debut is a cautionary tale about the crisis of a middle-class marriage. *Promises Past* catalogues the relationship of the Stanhopes, illustrating every painful cliché of the seven-year itch with a good eye for the petty misunderstandings and jealousies that can drag a marriage down.

Sarah and Adrian Stanhope leave London with their three small children for the country. They depart to a chorus of disapproval: they will be bored, they will become bumptkins. But Sarah and the children soon become absorbed into the life of a small market town, just as her husband becomes distanced from it by the necessity of commuting to London. Their interests begin to diverge and Adrian becomes an increasingly shadowy figure, as the drama is concentrated on the female triumvirate of Sarah and her two new friends.

Hilary, a single mother, sees herself as a free spirit. In fact she is an irritating charac-

Katherine Bergen

PROMISES PAST
By Charlotte Moore
Century, £16.99/£5.99

ter, but all the more convincing for that. She waits about painting murals and rustling up elegant little meals, but her straightforward adolescent daughter, Elinor, thinks that it is disgusting that her mother has sex with her bearded lover. In contrast, Claudia, the unhappy wife of the local doctor, endures the pain of the childless woman who has finally given up hope of having her own.

Besides their blossoming friendship, the women are bound together by their relationship to the doctor, the vulpine Pierre Prescott. Sarah becomes increasingly attracted to him after he comes to the bedside of her sick child one night. She feels her secret passion with vague suspicions of her own husband's infidelity, not realising that her thoughts may lead her down a well-trodden path to become another victim of a serial adulterer.

Sarah's fractious, too knowing mother-in-law and her glamorous sister are others in a gallery of familiar rogues, but Moore manages to sustain our interest in the family. The Aga-saga-like plot is slight and the pace is gentle but the growing sense of crisis is well-managed and, more importantly, one cares about what happens to Sarah. In the end, both the rural idyll she has expected and the romantic dreams she fosters are called into question, and Sarah has to choose between her family and her fantasies.

Easterman is a unique style of controversial, topical and realistic thriller writing, based on historical fact, though the plot is entirely fictional. Easterman, like an Easterman plot.

DANIEL EASTERMAN
DAY OF WRATH
NOW AVAILABLE IN HARDBACK

DANIEL EASTERMAN
JUDAS FESTIVAL
NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK

DANIEL EASTERMAN
JUDAS FESTIVAL
NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK

DANIEL EASTERMAN
JUDAS FESTIVAL
NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK

DANIEL EASTERMAN
JUDAS FESTIVAL
NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK

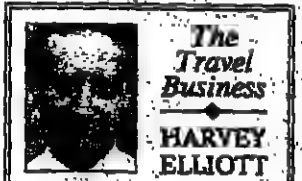
CAA in dock as regulator

When lawyers for British Airways and British Mediterranean clash across a Civil Aviation Authority "court" in the next few weeks, there will be more at stake than an apparently arcane dispute over route licences.

The judgment should indicate whether the CAA will, in future, have any role as a "regulator" of the aviation industry or whether it should stand aside and let market forces decide. The outcome could have a bearing on the way millions of airline passengers fly in the future — and at what price.

The case has an added piquancy in that the man garnering support on behalf of the little airline is David Burnside, now non-executive director of British Mediterranean, which has just one aeroplane and only 60 staff. Until two years ago, he was responsible for the public face of BA, with its fleet of 250 aeroplanes and staff of 50,000.

The story is simple. As



THE TRAVEL BUSINESS HARVEY ELLIOTT

Lebanon emerged from years of internal warfare, a small group of entrepreneurs recognised that regular air services would be needed to help the country to become the European playground it once had been. So, with the help of City investors, they formed British Mediterranean Airways and applied for a licence.

The airline leased one Airbus A320 and hoped to be able to use it every day. But BA, which belatedly recognised the potential provided by the rapidly developing region, objected and, even though its claims for parity were rejected, it eventually managed to restrict British Mediterranean to five flights a week while BA was given the licence for the other two.

British Mediterranean claims that, at one time, it managed to build a 44 per cent share of the market, and opened "add-on" services to Amman and Damascus from Beirut.

Then, last week, BA made what British Mediterranean's chairman Lord Heslhead called its "unwarranted attack". BA had learnt that the Lebanese were prepared to offer up to three more services between Beirut and London — and it wanted them all, to match the five now flown by British Mediterranean.

BA claimed that British Mediterranean was no longer a new, struggling airline, but one which was about to expand with routes into Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and add at least one more aeroplane to its fleet. It was now big enough to face serious competition rather than be cosseted by the CAA, BA said.

But British Mediterranean feared that its investors could withdraw their backing because of the new challenge. And, it said, BA's action was designed to keep the airline off the Saudi Arabia route, which is one of the least competitive and therefore most profitable in the world.

So, does Clifford Paine, the man within the CAA who must make the final decision, let BA have any new services on the assumption that it is time that British Mediterranean faced equal competition? Does he agree that any new licences should go to British Mediterranean further to protect the fledgling from the big boys? Or perhaps he simply lets the passengers and economics decide.

Watch this space.

Hotel chains head for world's trouble spots

By DAVID CHURCHILL

LEADING international hotel chains are stepping up their expansion into several of the world's danger spots. Inter-Continental Hotels this week announced plans to open a 270-room first-class hotel in Guatemala City, in Central America, by mid-1997, even though the Foreign Office is advising Britons to be "extremely vigilant" when visiting the city because of violent crime and terrorist attacks.

The hotel chain is also planning to open hotels over the next few years in Albania, Bulgaria and Lebanon, in addition to having recently taken over the management of three hotels in South Africa. All these countries are on the Foreign Office's advisory list of places where visiting Britons should take special care.

The Hyatt International chain is also developing into cities that the Foreign Office considers to be potentially dangerous. It recently opened a new hotel at Baku, capital

of Azerbaijan, where it already reports "high occupancy levels" from business travellers lured by the opportunities from the country's substantial oil and gas resources.

Hilton International, owned by the Ladbroke Group, is planning to open properties in Bucharest and Jerusalem over the next 18 months. Both Romania and Israel are on the government advisory list. Ironically,

the opening of a Hilton in Belfast, in January 1998, may prove to be one of the chain's safest new locations if the Northern Ireland peace process continues.

The reason for the expansion into international trouble spots is because the leading hotel chains all see these countries as having considerable potential for business travellers in the late 1990s and into the

next century. "Executives are increasingly travelling to emerging markets, especially in Asia and Eastern Europe, and expect to find a top business hotel such as the Hyatt already there," says John Wallis, Hyatt's marketing vice-president.

Robert Collier, joint managing director of Inter-Continental, acknowledges that his hotel chain has a reputation for going into "difficult" destinations. Inter-Continental was created in 1946 to spearhead US

business's expansion into South America along with its then parent company, Pan-Am (it is now owned by the Japanese Saison Group).

"Latin America remains a strategic area for us, particularly now that it has come through the period of hyper-inflation," he says. "There should be plenty of opportunities for us as other hotel groups have steered clear in recent times."

Foreign Office advice is available on 0171-270 4129.

Flight tax warning for Clarke

By DAVID CHURCHILL

BRITAIN's tour operators yesterday told the Chancellor of the Exchequer that up to one million fewer package holidays will be sold next year if he decides to raise the air passenger duty in his November Budget.

The tour companies fear the Treasury is considering a 50 per cent increase in the tax, introduced in last year's Budget, from £10 to £15 for flights to outside the European Union, and from £5 to £7 for flights within the EU.

They warned the Chancellor



Clarke preparing Budget

that if he puts the tax up it will damage the profitable profitability of the package tour industry. Already, the leading publicly-listed tour operators, Aircoach and First Choice, have announced sharp profit reductions in the current year, with resultant job losses.

"For the general public there will be a further reduction in the number of holidays

available," the Federation of Tour Operators (FTO) argued in a letter to the Chancellor. "The impact in 1996... will be to deny some one million people a package holiday."

Martin Brackenbury, chairman of the FTO which accounts for over 90 per cent of the estimated 15 million package holidays sold each year, claimed that the combined level of tax on British travellers is already "the highest in the world, except for first-class travel from Lebanon".

He said that tour operators had been forced to absorb the tax this year because consumers had refused to pay higher prices for package holidays. "As a result approximately the same number of holidays were sold this summer as last and at similar prices, but for lower profits," he added.

Mr Brackenbury also pointed out that recent failures among tour operators had "all but depleted" the air travel trust fund which compensates travellers for lost holidays. "Customers could very soon be facing some form of additional levy to replenish it," he claimed.

The travel industry's opposition to any increase in the airport tax has been supported by Nigel Griffiths, Labour's consumer affairs spokesman. "I strongly believe the travel industry has a powerful case against any rise," he said. "It is up to those affected as part of the multi-billion pound travel business to convince the Government that they simply cannot absorb such a tax or its impact on jobs and revenues."

Spain sparks passport chaos

HUNDREDS of British tourists are being turned back as they head for Spain because their passports are invalid.

Despite warnings that the one-year British Visitors Passport (BVP) would not be valid for entry to Spain after October 1, many travellers claimed to know nothing of the new rule until they were turned back at airline check-in desks or immigration control.

And only frantic action by British officials prevented the gradual phasing out of the £12 passport, turning into chaos when over-enthusiastic officials from other European countries and airlines, which are supposed to accept the BVP until the end of the year, jumped the gun and refused entry to BVP holders.

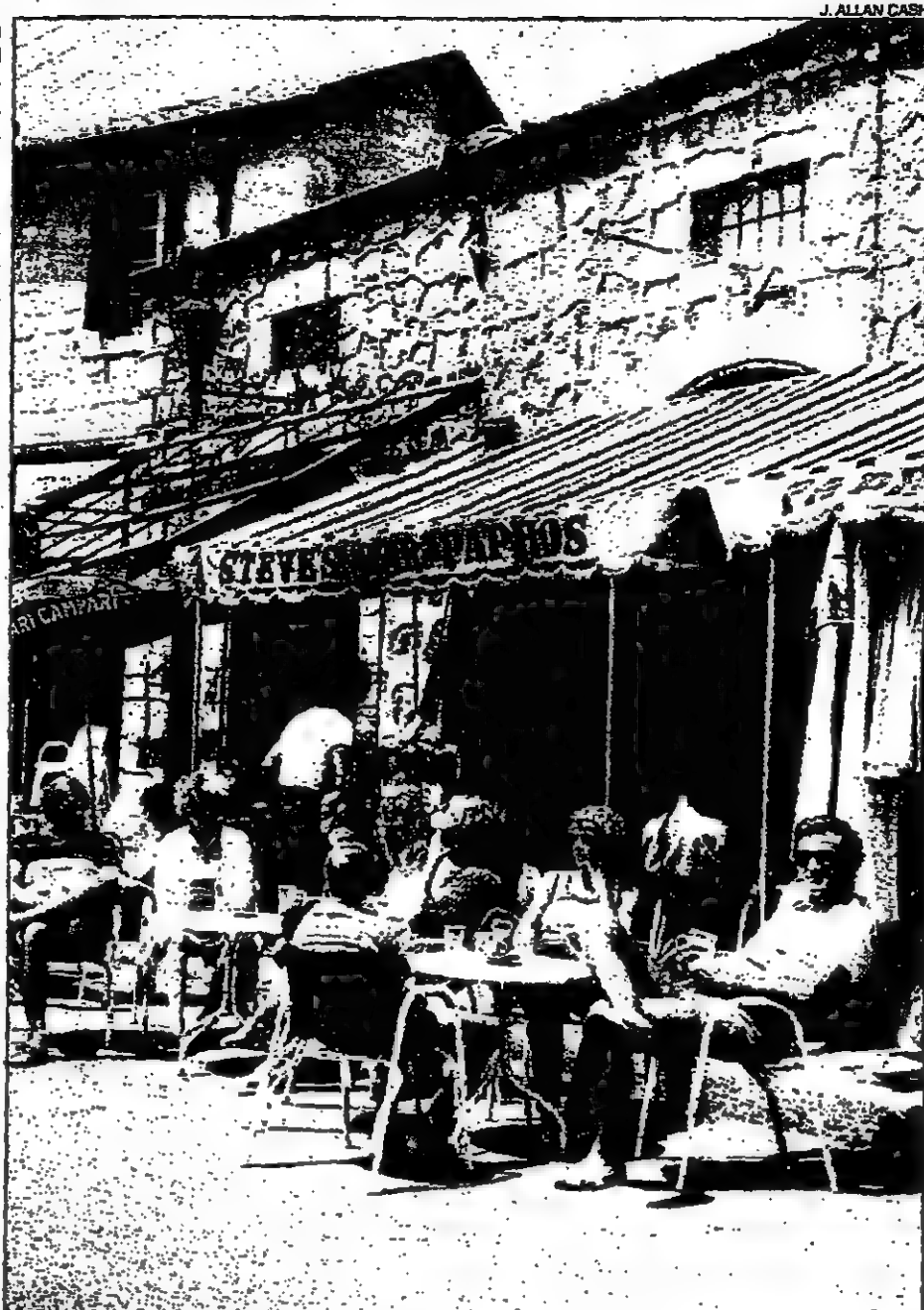
As reports flooded in that British passengers wanting to fly to France, Belgium, Turkey, Portugal and Greece were being refused entry, inter-governmental contact had to

be made to get the message across that the passports are valid until December 31 for every country except Spain.

Spanish authorities argued that British visitors needed documentation that was valid for at least three months, and as the BVP was being abolished from January 1 it had ceased to be valid now.

Because airlines are responsible for ensuring that their passengers have the correct documentation, check-in staff from some airlines had to tell would-be passengers that they could not travel. Many immediately moved to the nearest passport agency where staff have been working overtime to produce full ten-year passports in hours.

More than a million BVPs a year were issued through Post Offices and even though customers are now being warned that they will not be valid anywhere after January, thousands are still being sold.



Waterfront bar in Paphos — 39 Britons were arrested this summer on drugs charges

Paris aims to be Europe's hub

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

TWO NEW runways are to be installed at Charles de Gaulle airport near Paris as a "stop-gap" until a completely new airport can be built near the city, the French Government announced last week.

The decision is a clear indication that the French are now determined that Paris should become the aviation hub of Europe, turning millions of air passengers who now fly from outside Europe to Heathrow.

François Baroin, a French government official, said after a Cabinet meeting in Paris that a study would now be launched to choose a site for the new airport.

The Paris airport system — the second biggest in Europe and seventh largest in the world — will, M Baroin said,

"seek to accentuate improvement of its capacity".

The two main Paris airports, Charles de Gaulle and Orly, together with Le Bourget, the private business airport, have a combined annual traffic of 51.5 million passengers and 522,000 aircraft movements a year. This compares with Heathrow, through which 53.4 million passengers and 417,000 aircraft pass.

A public inquiry into the plan to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow, now grinding its way through hundreds of witnesses, is likely to last at least two years.

Des Wilson, BAA's corporate affairs director, said: "The French decision proves that we are in a highly competitive international industry."

Sydney noise levy

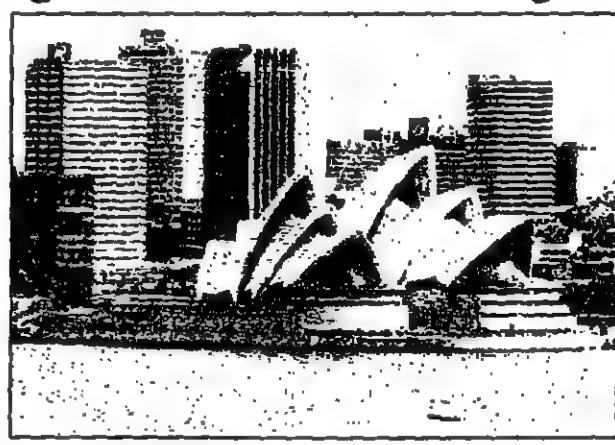
UK TRAVELLERS flying into Sydney airport by jet are paying more for their air tickets after the introduction of a "noise levy" by the Australian Government, Helen Conway writes.

Payment of the A\$3.40 (about £1.00) tax is made when passengers pay for their airline ticket, either to the travel agent or the airline direct.

There are an estimated 15 million passengers flying into Sydney each year and the new tax is expected to raise \$50 million in 12 months to pay for soundproofing 4,200 houses which are located under the flight path of the third runway at Sydney airport, which opened in the face of intense protest from local residents last year.

The Government is also having to buy 13 houses which are badly affected by noise from the new runway.

Travellers leaving Australia already pay a A\$27 departure tax, but this is the first arrivals



Air travellers to Sydney are paying to soundproof houses

tax. One domestic route is exempt from the new charge, however. Ansett Airlines is not imposing the tax on flights into Sydney from the Australian capital, Canberra, because its computer system cannot identify which of its 17 flights a day from Canberra

are jets and which are propeller-driven.

A spokeswoman for Qantas said it was highly likely that they would follow the Ansett lead and not pass on the tax to passengers from Canberra, rather than be seen as uncompetitive on fares.

Alton Towers to get hotel

BRITAIN's most famous theme park, Alton Towers, is to follow in the footsteps of the Walt Disney empire and open its first hotel, Rachael Jolley writes.

Already 17 per cent of the park's three million annual visitors stay for more than one day. Alton Towers marketing

manager Jill Brinson said the Disney experience had made people think of theme park visits as short breaks, rather than one-day trips. Ms Brinson said the hotel would encourage people who live more than a few hours' drive from the park to consider it as a place to visit.

Alton Towers will own and manage the £20 million hotel, which will have themed rooms including one with free chocolate and another decorated in Arabian Nights style. Guests will be able to walk from the hotel to nearby rides, giving them the advantage of beating the queues in the morning.

Britons are bravest

IN BRIEFS

THE British are now rated the most determined, bravest business travellers in Europe. A Visa International survey claims that security risks would deter only 36 per cent of British business travellers, compared with 54 per cent of French, 51 per cent of Spanish and 61 per cent of Swedes.

BUSINESS travel agencies are to be asked to compete for one of Britain's biggest travel contracts: the £180 million a year spent by the Ministry of Defence on transporting its civilians, servicemen and freight around the world. Officials within the ministry now make their own arrangements, but a report by a leading travel consultancy will probably recommend that travel be put to tender.

RICHARD BRANSON has launched Virgin Ultimate, marketing 14 of the most

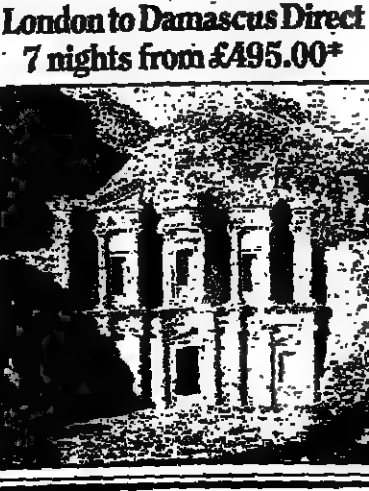
expensive holiday properties in the world. Venues in the brochure range from castles in Ireland and Scotland to manor houses, a private yacht and entire tropical islands.

EXCALIBUR Airways (01332 810569) has a return flight to Nice for £99, departing Gatwick this Saturday and returning the following Friday. TravelMood (0171-258 1234) is offering a weekend shopping trip to New York on Virgin Atlantic for £299, including two nights' accommodation in Manhattan, from Heathrow each Friday from November 1 to December 14 and returning on Monday. Journey Latin America (0181-747 3108) is charging £303 return for a return flight from Heathrow via Amsterdam to Mexico City until October 31.

Starting February 14th we shall be inaugurating a new flight series direct from London Gatwick to Damascus for the remarkable site of Palmyra and the 'rose red' city of Petra. This permits the traveller to visit the area which he has come to see and be able to relax and explore other parts of these ancient lands at an easy pace and when the weather is at its most pleasant for sightseeing. Our arrangement includes: international flight to and from Damascus, 7 nights accommodation, transportation throughout, and services of local knowledgeable guides and a variety of optional visits to Crac des Chevaliers, Jerash, Little Petra, and Wadi Rum.

This is a wonderful opportunity to visit both Syria and Jordan, two of the world's most fascinating countries. We reach Damascus in the evening where we spend three nights at the al-Paradise Hotel. From here we make our visit to Palmyra with the choice of other optional visits including an exploration of the Old City of Damascus, best done on foot, and perhaps a visit to the Street called Straight. Then onwards to Petra for three nights at the Petra Guest House situated at the very gates of the site itself. During our stay optional visits may be made to the site of Petra best made over two days and then perhaps Little Petra, Jerash, and Wadi Rum. Finally, our last night is spent at Bosra where we explore the

An Inaugural Offer
PALMYRA to PETRA
London to Damascus Direct
7 nights from £495.00*



perfectly preserved Roman amphitheatre before returning to London Gatwick.

We are making 20 places available at a special inaugural tariff on the indicated departure dates on a first reserved, first allocated basis of just £495 per person in a twin bedded room.

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES
1996 Wednesdays
February 14, 21, 28 £495.00
March 6, 13, 20, 27 £495.00
April 3, 10, 17, 24 £495.00
May 1, 8, 15, 22 £495.00
Single supplement £165.00

* indicates that first 20 places are available at the inaugural tariff of £495.00

Taxi includes: return flight to Damascus, room and breakfast in Syria (full board), transport £250, full board in Jordan, local guides and local transport to Palmyra, and Bosra. Not included: visa, insurance, airport taxes and entrance fees to Petra. All prices are subject to change.

0171-616 1000

VOYAGES JULES VERNE

21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6GG

Travel Promotional Ltd
0171-661 0100

Can you imagine a 4 star hotel in Lisbon from £22 a night?

With TAP Air Portugal you can. When you fly on a published Economy fare, take advantage of excellent savings on many of Portugal's finest hotels andAVIS Car Hire.

AIR PORTUGAL plus

Call your travel agent or Plus-line: 0171 630 9223 now, and ask for a brochure

Hotel prices are based on 2 people sharing twin room. Operated by Caravello Tours Ltd, ATOL 1598.

How a passion for success is healing the scars of a crippling injury

Quiet comeback of rider with a new mountain to climb

He is back in the saddle after four days on a life-support machine, having suffered serious head injuries in a fall while racing, and his name is not Declan Murphy. Steve Douce, seven times the national cyclo-cross champion, remembers vividly the night in July he dreamt that he was dead. He nearly was.

Douce was racing his mountain bike at Caterick last May when he hit a rock in a stream and was catapulted off. Although he sustained no fracture to his head, he suffered bruising to the brain and underwent a five-hour operation to repair facial injuries.

Doctors could not reassure Sharon, his wife, that he would live. "At one stage I thought that was it," she said. "They said they did not know whether he would come round again and, if he did, that he could have brain damage. They said he may never walk or talk again; or be able to look after himself; or that he might not recognise anybody."

Although he has by no means made a full recovery — "I am a completely different person" — he returned quietly to competition in the same week that Murphy, the National Hunt jockey, made his much-publicised comeback 17 months after fracturing his skull. And, like Murphy, Douce won.

He was fortunate, he admitted, to triumph on his return, in a race at Dudley 11 days ago, but he was due some luck. As if his accident was not distressing enough for Douce and his family, he lost what little salary sponsorship he had when his backer decided not to extend their three-month agreement. He then discovered that the private insurance scheme he had been paying into for years did not cover professional sportsmen. Douce had neglected to read the small print.

He won at Dudley after one of two riders in front of him suffered a puncture and the other appeared to misjudge the race, leaving Douce to pass



David Powell on a champion collecting invalid benefit on his journey back to the top

him with a lap-and-a-half remaining. He had his second race back on Sunday, another low-key event, this time at Wolverhampton, and finished third; but only after being thrown from the saddle again. A pair of wooden rails designed to slow down the riders was a technical challenge for the more accomplished competitors who, instead of getting off, would jump them.

"Your feet are fastened in the pedals so you can jump the whole bike up," Douce, the British No 1, said. "The sleepers are about a bike-and-a-half apart. I rode over the first one and went straight into the second. My reflexes are not as quick as they used to be." Fortunately, this time, he landed safely. Other things about Douce are not the same as before the accident.

"He is a changed person," according to his wife. "He is more short-tempered and more distant. I was warned that he could have a personality change, that it was the part of the brain that affects the personality, so I was prepared for it. He goes into a world of his own sometimes."

But his commitment to sport remains unaffected. "I have still got that," Douce said. And, though Sharon worries "every time he gets back on his bike," she has not put pressure on him to quit. After all, he has been cyclo-cross racing for 20 years and, at 31, his potential

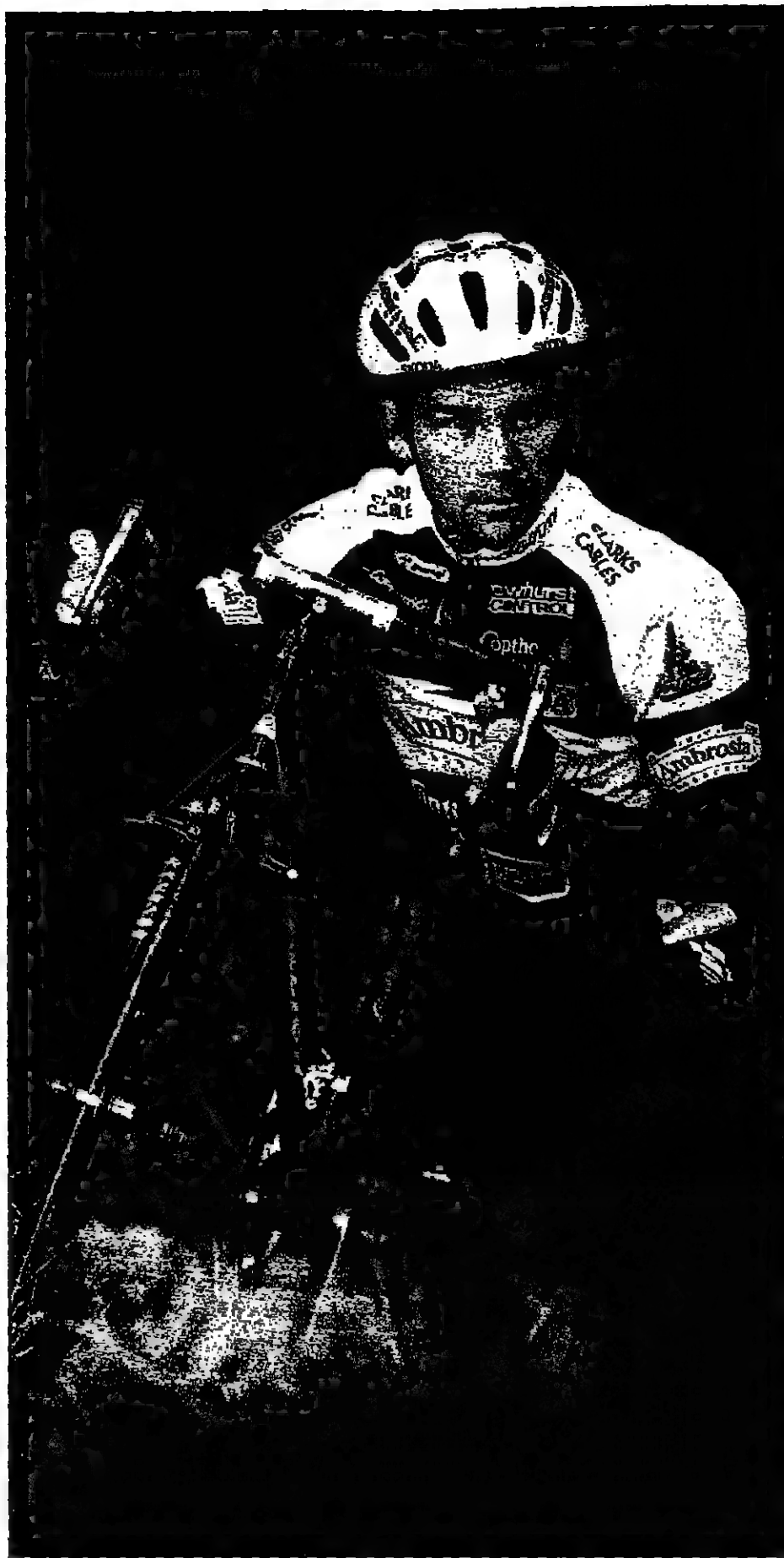
to stay at the top is limited to perhaps four more years. "That's his life," she said. "I was never that naive to think he would stop."

Only a dream, but so nearly reality.

Team Ambrosia and Ewhurst Control are assisting Douce with bikes and expenses. "Not a full sponsorship but better than nothing," he said. "Cycling has gone downhill in this country. The sponsorship I had was not very good. That is why I had to supplement it with a job. All the savings I made over the years have gone."

Douce cannot recall his accident and tries to block the occurrence from his mind. "I have only thought about it once and that was when that Italian rider [Fabio Casarotti] crashed and died from head injuries in the Tour de France. That night I dreamt I was dead and in a coffin."

Steve Douce, back cycling competitively after suffering serious head injuries in May



Steve Douce, back cycling competitively after suffering serious head injuries in May

NBA orders limited retreat from decibel hell

If you venture down to the London Docklands to watch the Houston Rockets over the next three days, the most essential accessory will not be a Hakeem Olajuwon vest or a fancy pair of sneakers, but a set of earplugs. The National Basketball Association (NBA), who are promoting the McDonald's club championship with the customary banging of drums, are promising an "NBA-style" presentation at the London Arena over the next three days and, as anyone who has survived Indiana's pacer racer or the buzzing hornets at Charlotte will testify, that means loud.

At least it did until yesterday when the NBA, the inventors of rock 'n' roll sport, called on their teams to cut the decibels for the coming season. "In some places, they were turning up the volume so high it bothered people on court and bothered people in the stands. It offends people's

senses," Rod Thorn, the NBA's vice-president of operations, said.

Sound effects have always been such an integral part of the game, the basketball boom did not just describe its popularity. It was truly onomatopoeic. But in the last few years teams have used musical excess as an acceptable way of distracting opponents. Cartoon noises, rock anthems or in the case of the Indiana Pacers, a ferocious revving, and the Charlotte Hornets, an ear-splitting buzzing, have now become part of the repertoire. NBA games are a cross between a rock concert, a Baptist rally and children's theatre and the people love them. NBA games were 94 per cent sold out last season.

"If you talk to players and coaches, the majority would say they like what's being done," Thorn said. "If you talk to the marketing people, they'd say it's part of the show."

Andrew Longmore reveals why American basketball has decided that the time is right to impose a degree of noise abatement

The loudest, brashest, presentation in the NBA could be found at the Orlando Arena where a spectacular dunk by Shaquille O'Neal was greeted by the voice of announcer, Paul Porter, amplified to 100 decibels with the help of a reverberating machine. A jet aircraft produces 150 decibels, the Rolling Stones 90 to 100 at full volume. "We try to have the reverberating while the other team is taking the ball up the court," Porter said. "Visiting players say it is an onerous task to play, which means we must be doing something right."

The noise, though, caused a stir with Larry Brown, coach of the Indiana Pacers, who complained about the sound effects during the Eastern

Conference finals. Orlando countered by pointing out that Indiana fans, who are also some of the noisiest in the business, waved pinwheels behind the basket at Market Arena when the Orlando players were taking a free throw. The NBA promised to look at the whole matter of distractions.

Among their recommendations for the new season, the NBA have asked teams to keep levels down to 85 decibels and only to use sound effects when the home team has the ball or during timeouts. Pre-recorded chants like "charge" or "defence" may be played when either side has the ball, but more impartially. Ray Lalonde, public relations manager for NBA in



O'Neal: his scoring efforts get thunderous acclaim

Europe, promises that the McDonald's championship, which for the first time features the NBA champions, will be staged in the best possible taste, with imaginative sound effects tailored for more sensitive English ears. "We have no intention of making it any louder or different than a normal

game," he said. "The arena has been designed beautifully to look like a real NBA arena and the whole atmosphere will give everyone a true taste of the NBA."

Back in Orlando, Paul Porter is not very impressed by the idea of a new, quieter, NBA. He predicts that the volume will slowly creep up as the season wears on and he back to the old levels in time for the playoffs.

The three-day McDonald's championship, which begins today, promises to be more sedate as the Houston Rockets take on five other national champions, including the Sheffield Sharks. The final is on Saturday evening and the only disappointment is that Hakeem "the dream" Olajuwon, the seven-foot Nigerian-born centre who has led the Rockets to two consecutive NBA titles, is recovering from surgery and probably will not play. He would have been the biggest noise of all.

Lamerton suffers head injuries

ANDREW LAMERTON, the Llanelli hooker, who won five Welsh rugby union caps in 1993, was seriously ill in hospital yesterday after suffering injuries in a car accident (David Hands writes). Lamerton, 25, was a member of the Wales A squad that will play the Fijians in Bridgend on Saturday and took part in a training session after no ill-effects were apparent after a hospital check-up on Monday, the day of the accident.

Lamerton suffered head injuries when his car was in collision with another vehicle as he reversed out of his house in Pontypridd; he was later taken ill at work and detained at Morriston Hospital in Swansea, which specialises in neurosurgery. It is understood there is no connection with the back injury that forced his temporary retirement from the game in 1994. A hospital spokesman described his condition yesterday as "serious".

PLANNING (N Wales A at Bridgend, Saturday); P. Ffrench, M. Bell, S. Scowen, L. Llewellyn, P. Bell, E. Hughes, J. McCann, J. Vennart, E. Beirne, E. Nelson, T. Trefor, E. Williams, I. Thomas, W. Williams, D. Jones.

Lewis heads south

BOXING: The heavyweight bout between Lennox Lewis and Riddick Bowe, of the United States, which has been scheduled for March, could be staged in South Africa. Bowe has been talking to South Africa promoters and has had positive reactions. Bowe, like Lennox, a former world champion, wants to back boxing in that country, particularly since he met Nelson Mandela, the President, two years ago. His representative, Alexis Deary, said: "We have been negotiating with the Lewis organisation since before his fight against Tommy Morrison last month."

The bout will be part of an effort by Bowe to help boxing in South Africa, with Rock Newman, his manager, inviting the South African welterweight champion, Mphahlele Makhambi, to appear on one of his shows in the United States.

Pakistan order inquiry

CRICKET: The Pakistan board has demanded an inquiry into their team's unceremonious exit from the Champions' Trophy in Sharjah this week amid reports of a player revolt against the captain, Ramiz Raja. Zulfiqar Ali Shah Bokhari, chairman of the board, said yesterday that he would be joined by the board's chief executive, Aftab Abbas, and treasurer, Salman Taseer, in the three-member committee meeting in Lahore on Saturday. The meeting precedes the selection of the Pakistan squad for the forthcoming tour of Australia, the same day.

O'Sullivan slumps

SNOOKER: Ronnie O'Sullivan, the former United Kingdom champion, fell victim to the most surprising result of the season so far when he was beaten 5-2 by Michael Duffy, the world No 169 from Portadown, Northern Ireland, in the first round of the Skoda Grand Prix at Sunderland yesterday. O'Sullivan, who seems weighed down by continuing family problems and whose form has gradually disintegrated since he won the Benson & Hedges Masters title in February, attempted too many risky shots to ensure victory.

Results, page 43

Cleveland celebrate

BASEBALL: The Cleveland Indians have won their first American League pennant and World Series trip for 41 years with a 4-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners. The Indians won the best-of-seven American League championship series 4-2 and will face the National League champions, the Atlanta Braves, in the World Series, which begins on Saturday in Atlanta. Dennis Martinez, 40, was their matchwinner, allowing only four hits over seven innings. Cleveland have not won a championship since 1954.

De Rossi faces ban

RUGBY UNION: The Italy full back, Claudio De Rossi, faces a two-year ban after a second urine sample tested positive for banned steroids. De Rossi, the first Italian player to fail a drug test, was suspended indefinitely earlier this month after he showed positive at a training session. Sandro Di Santo, secretary of the Italian Federation, said: "The lad said he had merely taken some yeast." He added that it was up to a sporting judge to decide on the punishment, and went on: "But it looks like at least two years."

England management looks beyond established squad

Robinson in line for England recall

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

DAMIAN Hopley, who spent four years on the fringe of international selection before winning his first England cap during the World Cup this year, and Andy Robinson, the last of whose seven caps was against Wales in 1989, may claim places in the England team to play South Africa next month.

Hopley, the Wasps centre who trained with the national squad at Marlow on Tuesday, is being considered as a right wing, while Robinson, the Bath flanker who has yet to be invited to a training evening, is said by the team management to be "at the forefront" of their thoughts.

England have a clear vacancy on the right wing, where neither Tony Underwood nor Ian Hunter is fit. Moreover, Hopley fits the criteria specified by Don Rutherford, the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) technical director, after the World Cup when he inquired where England's answer to

New Zealand's physically-powerful wings — John Kirwan, Vaeaiga Tuigamala or Jonah Lomu — might be.

Robinson, 31, comes into contention after an outstanding season with Bath. "He's playing better than ever and is very keen to play for England," Jack Rowell, the team manager, said as he contemplated a squad of whom nine were limited in their activities by injury. Time is not on Jason Leonard's side — the Harle-

quins captain is unlikely to resume against Bath on Saturday — while Simon Shaw, the young Bristol lock, is more worried about a hip injury than the bruised hand that he picked up last weekend.

However, the casualty list has enabled England to recognise the form of John Fowler, of Sale, Andy Mullins, of Harlequins, and Paul Grayson, of Northampton, all of whom trained at Marlow. "We will need our big team — by which I mean the first-choice team — against South Africa because any weaknesses will be ruthlessly exploited," Rowell said.

That same team will also be the first to receive player-contracts. The RFU will have finalised them by the end of this month. The union will not lose much time, either, in making them available as models to anxious first-division clubs who, in the words of Tony Hallett, are "living on the edge of a volcano" because they fear that their brightest prospects will be offered contracts elsewhere.

Hallett, the RFU secretary, sympathises with club officials who believe that the recent International Rugby Football Board ruling on contracts favours overwhelmingly the national governing bodies. John Hall, the Bath team manager, expressed the thoughts of many when he called for one contract, with compensation paid by the union when it called up players for international duty. "We are producing good players at club level and we need them committed and under contract," Hall said.

The first division clubs met at Leicester last night with player-movement a hot potato. Their representatives will meet Hallett tomorrow. "When a player gets selected by England, he will find that the structured season will not interfere with his club commitments," Hallett said, aware that Rowell is unhappy that his XV to play South Africa on November 18 will be involved in league action the previous weekend.



Hopley: fulfils criteria

THE TIMES
SPORTS SERVICE

RACING
Commentary
Call 0891 500 123
Results
Call 0891 100 123

FOOTBALL
Reports and scores from the Cup Winners' Cup
Call 0839 555 562

Calls cost 39p per min. cheap rates 49p per min. at all other times

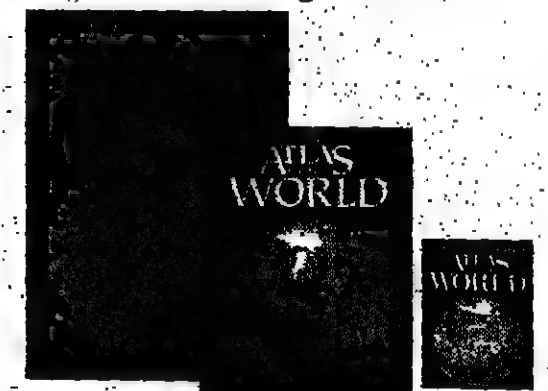
THOUSANDS OF WINNERS EVERYWHERE

Prize	Amount	Prize	Amount
1st Prize	£2,000.00	4th Prize	£4.00
2nd Prize	£1,000.00	5th Prize	£3.00
3rd Prize	£500.00	6th Prize	£2.00
4th Prize	£200.00	7th Prize	£1.00
5th Prize	£100.00	8th Prize	£0.50
6th Prize	£50.00	9th Prize	£0.25
7th Prize	£25.00	10th Prize	£0.10

For more information call 0800 000 000 or visit our website at www.littlewoods.com

THE TIMES Atlases of the World

Now! No handling charges and free delivery to all our UK customers. For overseas charges see below.



9th Comprehensive (De Luxe) Edition (HB) £85
7th Concise Edition (HB) £40 New October 5th £45 after (1.1.1996)

Family Edition (HB) £17.99 ***

Reference Edition (HB) £12.99 ***

Compact Edition (HB) £8.99 **

Mini (Pocket) Edition (HB) £5.99 *

Surface Mail Overseas (including Irish Republic):

Item marked ***** add £10.00

Item marked **** add £4.00 per item

Item marked *** add £3.00 per item

Item marked ** add £2.00 per item

Item marked * add £1.00 per item

US dollar cheques welcome - (£1 = \$1.50)

Please send cheques or postal orders (no credit cards) payable to Akom Ltd.

51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW

Enquiries: 0181 852 4575 (24 hours)

Delivery up to 8 days (UK)

Australian rejects claim of greed Norman stands firm despite wintry welcome

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

FOR the second time in three months, golf's caravan has alighted at St Andrews. In July, it was for the 24th Open Championship and crowds clogged the streets and descended on the traffic to a standstill. Today, it is for the eleventh Alfred Dunhill Cup, which starts over the Old Course this morning.

Those sunlit days just past midsummer, when John Daly won the Open and Constantino Rocca won our hearts, seemed a long way away yesterday. The old town is as grey, cold and forbidding as its nickname suggests. Winds of 40mph roared over the hallowed turf and pellets of rain swept into the faces of golfers. In this city, which seems hewn from granite, it was too cold yesterday for Rocky to play golf and so Sylvester Stallone withdrew from the pro-am.

Greg Norman found himself at the centre of a row about the appearance money he receives at some tournaments. This comes after accusations in a newspaper article by Mark McCormack, the head of the International Management Group (IMG), the promoters of last week's World Match Play Championship, that Norman demanded £250,000 to compete at Wentworth.

"Greg Norman wants money - full stop," McCormack claimed, and we've never paid any appearance money. Once you do it, you're dead. How can you pay Norman and not Ernie Els. . . But we've got to be realistic. He's the only one who wants it."

Norman said that he received appearance money in eight of the approximately 24 tournaments he entered each year and, at two of those eight, he gave some of that fee to charity. "Some of the figures

mentioned are ridiculous," Norman said. "The Irish Open, for example, I wish I did get £250,000. As for the World Match Play, all I can say is that when I was with them [IMG], appearance money was never a problem." Norman left IMG to run his own management company just under two years ago. "Every event I competed in when I was with IMG, except those in the US, they asked for appearance money for me," Norman, Steve Elkington,

time. You just have to beat that guy." The United States, comprising Ben Crenshaw, Peter Jacobson and Lee Janzen, are the top seeds and are drawn in group one with Canada, the defending champions, Sweden, the 1991 winners, and Ireland, the 1990 champions. This is clearly the hardest of the four groups. Scotland are in group two with South Africa, Taiwan and Germany. Wales in group three with Zimbabwe, New Zealand and Japan.

Before the Fijian rugby league players left for the World Cup in Europe, they prepared for the cold by spending time in giant freezers. The South Africans might have done the same thing. David Frost loped across the 1st tee at St Andrews towards the practice putting green, his head shrunk into his shoulders, his hands deep in his pockets.

"It's going to get even colder this afternoon, David," someone said, "and tomorrow the wind is going to get up, too. It will blow at 50mph."

"Thank you very much," Frost, whose South African teammates are Ernie Els and Retief Goosen, said.

At 5.30am yesterday, the weather forecast said there would be a strong west-south-westerly wind that might be a gale later. It did not take long to arrive. Five minutes later, the Meteorological Office issued a weather warning suggesting the wind might reach 45mph in the afternoon. Mark James, the England captain at St Andrews this week, said he was not interested in succeeding Bernard Gallacher as the captain of the Europe Ryder Cup team. James, 41, described the captaincy as "a thankless task."

DRAW

Seeds in capital, number denotes seedings

Group one
(1) UNITED STATES (2) Crenshaw, P. Jacobson, L. Janzen, J. (3) CANADA (4) Gibson, D. Barr, R. Stewart, Ireland (5) Clark, P. Watson, R. Palfrey, Sweden (6) Farnick, P. J. (7) Johnson, J. (8) Scotland (9) Montgomerie, S. Torrance, A. Collery, G. (10) AFRICA (11) Els, D. Frost, G. (12) Taiwan (13) Chen Liang-shan, Chung Ching-wei, Li Wen-shan, Germany (14) C. S. Striver, H. P. T. (15) Zimbabwe (16) Price, M. Mokbel, A. (17) NEW ZEALAND (18) Campbell, P. Nobilo, G. Turner, Wales (19) Woodman, R. Black, M. (20) Japan (21) Kato, N. (22) South Africa (23) Goosen, R. (24) Els, E. (25) Ireland (26) Els, E. (27) Els, E. (28) Els, E. (29) Els, E. (30) Els, E. (31) Els, E. (32) Els, E. (33) Els, E. (34) Els, E. (35) Els, E. (36) Els, E. (37) Els, E. (38) Els, E. (39) Els, E. (40) Els, E. (41) Els, E. (42) Els, E. (43) Els, E. (44) Els, E. (45) Els, E. (46) Els, E. (47) Els, E. (48) Els, E. (49) Els, E. (50) Els, E. (51) Els, E. (52) Els, E. (53) Els, E. (54) Els, E. (55) Els, E. (56) Els, E. (57) Els, E. (58) Els, E. (59) Els, E. (60) Els, E. (61) Els, E. (62) Els, E. (63) Els, E. (64) Els, E. (65) Els, E. (66) Els, E. (67) Els, E. (68) Els, E. (69) Els, E. (70) Els, E. (71) Els, E. (72) Els, E. (73) Els, E. (74) Els, E. (75) Els, E. (76) Els, E. (77) Els, E. (78) Els, E. (79) Els, E. (80) Els, E. (81) Els, E. (82) Els, E. (83) Els, E. (84) Els, E. (85) Els, E. (86) Els, E. (87) Els, E. (88) Els, E. (89) Els, E. (90) Els, E. (91) Els, E. (92) Els, E. (93) Els, E. (94) Els, E. (95) Els, E. (96) Els, E. (97) Els, E. (98) Els, E. (99) Els, E. (100) Els, E. (101) Els, E. (102) Els, E. (103) Els, E. (104) Els, E. (105) Els, E. (106) Els, E. (107) Els, E. (108) Els, E. (109) Els, E. (110) Els, E. (111) Els, E. (112) Els, E. (113) Els, E. (114) Els, E. (115) Els, E. (116) Els, E. (117) Els, E. (118) Els, E. (119) Els, E. (120) Els, E. (121) Els, E. (122) Els, E. (123) Els, E. (124) Els, E. (125) Els, E. (126) Els, E. (127) Els, E. (128) Els, E. (129) Els, E. (130) Els, E. (131) Els, E. (132) Els, E. (133) Els, E. (134) Els, E. (135) Els, E. (136) Els, E. (137) Els, E. (138) Els, E. (139) Els, E. (140) Els, E. (141) Els, E. (142) Els, E. (143) Els, E. (144) Els, E. (145) Els, E. (146) Els, E. (147) Els, E. (148) Els, E. (149) Els, E. (150) Els, E. (151) Els, E. (152) Els, E. (153) Els, E. (154) Els, E. (155) Els, E. (156) Els, E. (157) Els, E. (158) Els, E. (159) Els, E. (160) Els, E. (161) Els, E. (162) Els, E. (163) Els, E. (164) Els, E. (165) Els, E. (166) Els, E. (167) Els, E. (168) Els, E. (169) Els, E. (170) Els, E. (171) Els, E. (172) Els, E. (173) Els, E. (174) Els, E. (175) Els, E. (176) Els, E. (177) Els, E. (178) Els, E. (179) Els, E. (180) Els, E. (181) Els, E. (182) Els, E. (183) Els, E. (184) Els, E. (185) Els, E. (186) Els, E. (187) Els, E. (188) Els, E. (189) Els, E. (190) Els, E. (191) Els, E. (192) Els, E. (193) Els, E. (194) Els, E. (195) Els, E. (196) Els, E. (197) Els, E. (198) Els, E. (199) Els, E. (200) Els, E. (201) Els, E. (202) Els, E. (203) Els, E. (204) Els, E. (205) Els, E. (206) Els, E. (207) Els, E. (208) Els, E. (209) Els, E. (210) Els, E. (211) Els, E. (212) Els, E. (213) Els, E. (214) Els, E. (215) Els, E. (216) Els, E. (217) Els, E. (218) Els, E. (219) Els, E. (220) Els, E. (221) Els, E. (222) Els, E. (223) Els, E. (224) Els, E. (225) Els, E. (226) Els, E. (227) Els, E. (228) Els, E. (229) Els, E. (230) Els, E. (231) Els, E. (232) Els, E. (233) Els, E. (234) Els, E. (235) Els, E. (236) Els, E. (237) Els, E. (238) Els, E. (239) Els, E. (240) Els, E. (241) Els, E. (242) Els, E. (243) Els, E. (244) Els, E. (245) Els, E. (246) Els, E. (247) Els, E. (248) Els, E. (249) Els, E. (250) Els, E. (251) Els, E. (252) Els, E. (253) Els, E. (254) Els, E. (255) Els, E. (256) Els, E. (257) Els, E. (258) Els, E. (259) Els, E. (260) Els, E. (261) Els, E. (262) Els, E. (263) Els, E. (264) Els, E. (265) Els, E. (266) Els, E. (267) Els, E. (268) Els, E. (269) Els, E. (270) Els, E. (271) Els, E. (272) Els, E. (273) Els, E. (274) Els, E. (275) Els, E. (276) Els, E. (277) Els, E. (278) Els, E. (279) Els, E. (280) Els, E. (281) Els, E. (282) Els, E. (283) Els, E. (284) Els, E. (285) Els, E. (286) Els, E. (287) Els, E. (288) Els, E. (289) Els, E. (290) Els, E. (291) Els, E. (292) Els, E. (293) Els, E. (294) Els, E. (295) Els, E. (296) Els, E. (297) Els, E. (298) Els, E. (299) Els, E. (300) Els, E. (301) Els, E. (302) Els, E. (303) Els, E. (304) Els, E. (305) Els, E. (306) Els, E. (307) Els, E. (308) Els, E. (309) Els, E. (310) Els, E. (311) Els, E. (312) Els, E. (313) Els, E. (314) Els, E. (315) Els, E. (316) Els, E. (317) Els, E. (318) Els, E. (319) Els, E. (320) Els, E. (321) Els, E. (322) Els, E. (323) Els, E. (324) Els, E. (325) Els, E. (326) Els, E. (327) Els, E. (328) Els, E. (329) Els, E. (330) Els, E. (331) Els, E. (332) Els, E. (333) Els, E. (334) Els, E. (335) Els, E. (336) Els, E. (337) Els, E. (338) Els, E. (339) Els, E. (340) Els, E. (341) Els, E. (342) Els, E. (343) Els, E. (344) Els, E. (345) Els, E. (346) Els, E. (347) Els, E. (348) Els, E. (349) Els, E. (350) Els, E. (351) Els, E. (352) Els, E. (353) Els, E. (354) Els, E. (355) Els, E. (356) Els, E. (357) Els, E. (358) Els, E. (359) Els, E. (360) Els, E. (361) Els, E. (362) Els, E. (363) Els, E. (364) Els, E. (365) Els, E. (366) Els, E. (367) Els, E. (368) Els, E. (369) Els, E. (370) Els, E. (371) Els, E. (372) Els, E. (373) Els, E. (374) Els, E. (375) Els, E. (376) Els, E. (377) Els, E. (378) Els, E. (379) Els, E. (380) Els, E. (381) Els, E. (382) Els, E. (383) Els, E. (384) Els, E. (385) Els, E. (386) Els, E. (387) Els, E. (388) Els, E. (389) Els, E. (390) Els, E. (391) Els, E. (392) Els, E. (393) Els, E. (394) Els, E. (395) Els, E. (396) Els, E. (397) Els, E. (398) Els, E. (399) Els, E. (400) Els, E. (401) Els, E. (402) Els, E. (403) Els, E. (404) Els, E. (405) Els, E. (406) Els, E. (407) Els, E. (408) Els, E. (409) Els, E. (410) Els, E. (411) Els, E. (412) Els, E. (413) Els, E. (414) Els, E. (415) Els, E. (416) Els, E. (417) Els, E. (418) Els, E. (419) Els, E. (420) Els, E. (421) Els, E. (422) Els, E. (423) Els, E. (424) Els, E. (425) Els, E. (426) Els, E. (427) Els, E. (428) Els, E. (429) Els, E. (430) Els, E. (431) Els, E. (432) Els, E. (433) Els, E. (434) Els, E. (435) Els, E. (436) Els, E. (437) Els, E. (438) Els, E. (439) Els, E. (440) Els, E. (441) Els, E. (442) Els, E. (443) Els, E. (444) Els, E. (445) Els, E. (446) Els, E. (447) Els, E. (448) Els, E. (449) Els, E. (450) Els, E. (451) Els, E. (452) Els, E. (453) Els, E. (454) Els, E. (455) Els, E. (456) Els, E. (457) Els, E. (458) Els, E. (459) Els, E. (460) Els, E. (461) Els, E. (462) Els, E. (463) Els, E. (464) Els, E. (465) Els, E. (466) Els, E. (467) Els, E. (468) Els, E. (469) Els, E. (470) Els, E. (471) Els, E. (472) Els, E. (473) Els, E. (474) Els, E. (475) Els, E. (476) Els, E. (477) Els, E. (478) Els, E. (479) Els, E. (480) Els, E. (481) Els, E. (482) Els, E. (483) Els, E. (484) Els, E. (485) Els, E. (486) Els, E. (487) Els, E. (488) Els, E. (489) Els, E. (490) Els, E. (491) Els, E. (492) Els, E. (493) Els, E. (494) Els, E. (495) Els, E. (496) Els, E. (497) Els, E. (498) Els, E. (499) Els, E. (500) Els, E. (501) Els, E. (502) Els, E. (503) Els, E. (504) Els, E. (505) Els, E. (506) Els, E. (507) Els, E. (508) Els, E. (509) Els, E. (510) Els, E. (511) Els, E. (512) Els, E. (513) Els, E. (514) Els, E. (515) Els, E. (516) Els, E. (517) Els, E. (518) Els, E. (519) Els, E. (520) Els, E. (521) Els, E. (522) Els, E. (523) Els, E. (524) Els, E. (525) Els, E. (526) Els, E. (527) Els, E. (528) Els, E. (529) Els, E. (530) Els, E. (531) Els, E. (532) Els, E. (533) Els, E. (534) Els, E. (535) Els, E. (536) Els, E. (537) Els, E. (538) Els, E. (539) Els, E. (540) Els, E. (541) Els, E. (542) Els, E. (543) Els, E. (544) Els, E. (545) Els, E. (546) Els, E. (547) Els, E. (548) Els, E. (549) Els, E. (550) Els, E. (551) Els, E. (552) Els, E. (553) Els, E. (554) Els, E. (555) Els, E. (556) Els, E. (557) Els, E. (558) Els, E. (559) Els, E. (560) Els, E. (561) Els, E. (562) Els, E. (563) Els, E. (564) Els, E. (565) Els, E. (566) Els, E. (567) Els, E. (568) Els, E. (569) Els, E. (570) Els, E. (571) Els, E. (572) Els, E. (573) Els, E. (574) Els, E. (575) Els, E. (576) Els, E. (577) Els, E. (578) Els, E. (579) Els, E. (580) Els, E. (581) Els, E. (582) Els, E. (583) Els, E. (584) Els, E. (585) Els, E. (586) Els, E. (587) Els, E. (588) Els, E. (589) Els, E. (590) Els, E. (591) Els, E. (592) Els, E. (593) Els, E. (594) Els, E. (595) Els, E. (596) Els, E. (597) Els, E. (598) Els, E. (599) Els, E. (600) Els, E. (601) Els, E. (602) Els, E. (603) Els, E. (604) Els, E. (605) Els, E. (606) Els, E. (607) Els, E. (608) Els, E. (609) Els, E. (610) Els, E. (611) Els, E. (612) Els, E. (613) Els, E. (614) Els, E. (615) Els, E. (616) Els, E. (617) Els, E. (618) Els, E. (619) Els, E. (620) Els, E. (621) Els, E. (622) Els, E. (623) Els, E. (624) Els, E. (625) Els, E. (626) Els, E. (627) Els, E. (628) Els, E. (629) Els, E. (630) Els, E. (631) Els, E. (632) Els, E. (633) Els, E. (634) Els, E. (635) Els, E. (636) Els, E. (637) Els, E. (638) Els, E. (639) Els, E. (640) Els, E. (641) Els, E. (642) Els, E. (643) Els, E. (644) Els, E. (645) Els, E. (646) Els, E. (647) Els, E. (648) Els, E. (649) Els, E. (650) Els, E. (651) Els, E. (652) Els, E. (653) Els, E. (654) Els, E. (655) Els, E. (656) Els, E. (657) Els, E. (658) Els, E. (659) Els, E. (660) Els, E. (661) Els, E. (662) Els, E. (663) Els, E. (664) Els, E. (665) Els, E. (666) Els, E. (667) Els, E. (668) Els, E. (669) Els, E. (670) Els, E. (671) Els, E. (672) Els, E. (673) Els, E. (674) Els, E. (675) Els, E. (676) Els, E. (677) Els, E. (678) Els, E. (679) Els, E. (680) Els, E. (681) Els, E. (682) Els, E. (683) Els, E. (684) Els, E. (685) Els, E. (686) Els, E. (687) Els, E. (688) Els, E. (689) Els, E. (690) Els, E. (691) Els, E. (692) Els, E. (693) Els, E. (694) Els, E. (695) Els, E. (696) Els, E. (697) Els, E. (698) Els, E. (699) Els, E. (700) Els, E. (701) Els, E. (702) Els, E. (703) Els, E. (704) Els, E. (705) Els, E. (706) Els, E. (707) Els, E. (708) Els, E. (709) Els, E. (710) Els, E. (711) Els, E. (712) Els, E. (713) Els, E. (714) Els, E. (715) Els, E. (716) Els, E. (717) Els, E. (718) Els, E. (719) Els, E. (720) Els, E. (721) Els, E. (722) Els, E. (723) Els, E. (724) Els, E. (725) Els, E. (726) Els, E. (727) Els, E. (728) Els, E. (729) Els, E. (730) Els, E. (731) Els, E. (732) Els, E. (733) Els, E. (734) Els, E. (735) Els, E. (736) Els, E. (737) Els, E. (738) Els, E. (739) Els, E. (740) Els, E. (741) Els, E. (742) Els, E. (743) Els, E. (744) Els, E. (745) Els, E. (746) Els, E. (747) Els, E. (748) Els, E. (749) Els, E. (750) Els, E. (751) Els, E. (752) Els, E. (753) Els, E. (754) Els, E. (755) Els, E. (756) Els, E. (757) Els, E. (758) Els, E. (759) Els, E. (760) Els, E. (761) Els, E. (762) Els, E. (763) Els, E. (764) Els, E. (765) Els, E. (766) Els, E. (767) Els, E. (768) Els, E. (769) Els, E. (770) Els, E. (771) Els, E. (772) Els, E. (773) Els, E. (774) Els, E. (775) Els, E. (776) Els, E. (777) Els, E. (778) Els, E. (779) Els, E. (780) Els, E. (781) Els, E. (782) Els, E. (783) Els, E. (784) Els, E. (785) Els, E. (786) Els, E. (787) Els, E. (788) Els, E. (789) Els, E. (790) Els, E. (791) Els, E. (792) Els, E. (793) Els, E. (794) Els, E. (795) Els, E. (796) Els, E. (797) Els, E. (798) Els, E. (799) Els, E. (800) Els, E. (801) Els, E. (802) Els, E. (803) Els, E. (804) Els, E. (805) Els, E. (806) Els, E. (807) Els, E. (808) Els, E. (809) Els, E. (810) Els, E. (811) Els, E. (812) Els, E. (813) Els, E. (814) Els, E. (815) Els, E. (816) Els, E. (817) Els, E. (818) Els, E. (819) Els, E. (820) Els, E. (821) Els, E. (822) Els, E. (823) Els, E. (824) Els, E. (825) Els, E. (826) Els, E. (827) Els, E. (828) Els, E. (829) Els, E. (830) Els, E. (831) Els, E. (832) Els, E. (833) Els, E. (834) Els, E. (835) Els, E. (836) Els, E. (837) Els, E. (838) Els, E. (839) Els, E. (840) Els, E. (841) Els, E. (842) Els, E. (843) Els, E. (844) Els, E. (845) Els, E. (846) Els, E. (847) Els, E. (848) Els, E. (849) Els, E. (850) Els, E. (851) Els, E. (852) Els, E. (853) Els, E. (854) Els, E. (855) Els, E. (856) Els, E. (857) Els, E. (858) Els, E. (859) Els, E. (860) Els, E. (861) Els, E. (862) Els, E. (863) Els, E. (864) Els, E. (865) Els, E. (866) Els, E. (867) Els, E. (868) Els, E. (869) Els, E. (870) Els, E. (871) Els, E. (872) Els, E. (873) Els, E. (874) Els, E. (875) Els, E. (876) Els, E. (877) Els, E. (878) Els, E. (879) Els, E. (880) Els, E. (881) Els, E. (882) Els, E. (883) Els, E. (884) Els, E. (885) Els, E. (886) Els, E. (887) Els, E. (888) Els, E. (889) Els, E. (890) Els, E. (891) Els, E. (892) Els, E. (893) Els, E. (894) Els, E. (895) Els, E. (896) Els, E. (897) Els, E. (898) Els, E. (899) Els, E. (900) Els, E. (901) Els, E. (902) Els, E. (903) Els, E. (904) Els, E. (905) Els, E. (906) Els, E. (907) Els, E. (908) Els, E. (909) Els, E. (910) Els, E. (911) Els, E. (912) Els, E. (913) Els, E. (914) Els, E. (915) Els, E. (916) Els, E. (917) Els, E. (918) Els, E. (919) Els, E. (920) Els, E. (921) Els, E. (922) Els, E. (923) Els, E. (924) Els, E. (925) Els, E. (926) Els, E. (927) Els, E. (928) Els, E. (929) Els, E. (930) Els, E. (931) Els, E. (932) Els, E. (933) Els, E. (934) Els, E. (935) Els, E. (936) Els, E. (937) Els, E. (938) Els, E. (939) Els, E. (940) Els, E. (941) Els, E. (942) Els, E. (943) Els, E. (944) Els, E. (945) Els, E. (946) Els, E. (947) Els, E. (948) Els, E. (949) Els, E. (950) Els, E. (951) Els, E. (952) Els, E. (953) Els, E. (954) Els, E. (955) Els, E. (956) Els, E. (957) Els, E. (958) Els, E. (959) Els, E. (960) Els, E. (961) Els, E. (962) Els, E. (963) Els, E. (964) Els, E. (965) Els, E. (966) Els, E. (967) Els, E. (968) Els, E. (969) Els, E. (970) Els, E. (971) Els, E. (972) Els, E. (973) Els, E. (974) Els, E. (975) Els, E. (976) Els, E. (977) Els, E. (978) Els, E. (979) Els, E. (980) Els, E. (981) Els, E. (982) Els, E. (983) Els, E. (984) Els, E. (985) Els, E. (986) Els, E. (987) Els, E. (988) Els, E. (989) Els, E. (990) Els, E. (991) Els, E. (992) Els, E. (993) Els, E. (994) Els, E. (995) Els, E. (996) Els, E. (997) Els, E. (998) Els, E. (999) Els, E. (1000) Els, E. (1001) Els, E. (1002) Els, E. (1003) Els, E. (1004) Els, E. (1005) Els, E. (1006) Els, E. (1007) Els, E. (1008) Els, E. (1009) Els, E. (1010) Els, E. (1011) Els, E. (1012) Els, E. (1013) Els, E. (1014) Els, E. (1015) Els, E. (1016) Els, E. (1017) Els, E. (1018) Els, E. (1019) Els, E. (1020) Els, E. (1021) Els, E. (1022) Els, E. (1023) Els, E. (1024) Els, E. (1025) Els, E. (1026) Els, E. (1027) Els, E. (1028) Els, E. (1029) Els, E. (1030) Els, E. (1031) Els, E. (1032) Els, E. (1033) Els, E. (1034) Els, E. (1035) Els, E. (1036) Els, E. (1037) Els, E. (1038) Els, E. (1039) Els, E. (1040) Els, E. (1041) Els, E. (1042) Els, E. (1043) Els, E. (1044) Els, E. (1045) Els, E. (1046) Els, E. (1047) Els, E. (1048) Els, E. (1049) Els, E. (1050) Els, E. (1051) Els, E. (1052) Els, E. (1053) Els, E. (1054) Els, E. (1055) Els, E. (1056) Els, E. (1057) Els, E. (1058) Els, E. (1059) Els, E. (1060) Els, E. (1061) Els, E. (1062) Els, E. (1063) Els, E. (1064) Els, E. (1065) Els, E. (1066) Els, E. (1067) Els, E. (1068) Els, E. (1069) Els, E. (1070) Els, E. (1071) Els, E. (1072) Els, E. (1073) Els, E. (1074) Els, E. (1075) Els, E. (1076) Els, E. (1077) Els, E. (1078) Els, E. (1079) Els, E. (1080) Els, E. (1081) Els, E. (1082) Els, E. (1083) Els, E. (1084) Els, E. (1085) Els, E. (1086) Els, E. (1087) Els, E. (1088) Els, E. (1089) Els, E. (1090) Els, E. (1091) Els, E. (1092) Els, E. (1093) Els, E. (1094) Els, E. (1095) Els, E. (1096) Els, E. (1097) Els, E. (1098) Els, E. (1099) Els, E. (1100) Els, E. (1101) Els, E. (1102) Els, E. (1103) Els, E. (1104) Els, E. (1105) Els, E. (1106) Els, E. (1107) Els, E. (1108) Els, E. (1109) Els, E. (1110) Els, E. (1111) Els, E. (1112) Els, E. (1113) Els, E. (1114) Els, E. (1115) Els, E. (1116) Els, E. (1117) Els, E. (1118) Els, E. (1119) Els, E. (1120) Els, E. (1121) Els, E. (1122) Els, E. (1123) Els, E. (1124) Els, E. (1125) Els, E. (1126) Els, E. (1127) Els, E. (1128) Els, E. (1129) Els, E. (1130) Els, E. (1131) Els, E. (1132) Els, E. (1133) Els, E. (1134) Els, E. (1135) Els, E. (1136) Els, E. (1137) Els, E. (1138) Els, E. (1139) Els, E. (1140) Els, E. (1141) Els, E. (1142) Els, E. (1143) Els, E. (1144) Els, E. (1145) Els, E. (1146) Els, E. (1147) Els, E. (1148) Els, E. (1149) Els, E. (1150) Els, E. (1151) Els, E. (1152) Els, E. (1153) Els, E. (1154) Els, E. (1155) Els, E. (1156) Els, E. (1157) Els, E. (1158) Els, E. (1159) Els, E. (1160) Els, E. (1161) Els, E. (1162) Els, E. (1163) Els, E. (1164) Els, E. (1165) Els, E. (1166) Els, E. (1167) Els, E. (1168) Els, E. (1169) Els, E. (1170) Els, E. (1171) Els, E. (1172) Els, E. (1173) Els, E. (1174) Els, E. (1175) Els, E. (1176) Els, E. (1177) Els, E. (1178) Els, E. (1179) Els, E. (1180) Els, E. (1181) Els, E. (1182) Els, E. (1183) Els, E. (1184) Els, E. (1185) Els, E. (1186) Els, E. (1187) Els, E. (1188) Els, E. (1189) Els, E. (1190) Els, E. (1191) Els, E. (1192) Els, E. (

مجلس أمن الجامعة

AP BBC1

3.40 GARDNER MERCHANT RA

ED HANDICAP **BBC1**

FORM

FOCUS

292	17	0-13032	PEOPLE SPLASH 30 (VLS) (C) Woodley P 0-6-13	5-9-4	W R Swietlow	97
293	17	7/69	RENN KUN 13 (F,LS) (C) Wooten J C Jend 9-0-13	5-9-4	T Yng	96
294	0	0010-0	SWEET BLOW 121 (F,LS) (M) M Patschky M P 0-6-12	5-9-4	M Patschky	92
295	0	121210	STARSHADOW 20 (F,F,LS) (A) M Maltzman J Gordon 5-9-13	5-9-4	W Carls	95
296	0	225334	PARADISE HAWY 17 (LS) (R) Barstow C C Spitzer 0-6-13	5-9-4	R Hughes	95
297	110	2110	UNITED FRONT 10 (F) (E) Renshaw R O'Sullivan 3-8-3	5-9-4	D Blagg	92
298	0	025100	TIJURICO SEA 13 (LS) (E) Ganss G E Ogden Hawy J Jendap 3-8-3	5-9-4	K Carls	92
299	0	083212	GREYCAT BOY 13 (SLP) (M) Renshaw R M Martin 3-7-8	5-9-4	N Dore	97
300	0	513340	EN VAG DE COLOMBE 12 (F) (F) Jendap C Thompson 3-7-8	5-9-4	D Swetlow	95
301	0	225316	EN VAGHUES 29 (F,LS) (E) Lewinson Vag Racing A Finner 3-7-7	5-9-4	T Yng	95

402	33	424910	CURRYMIST 25 (D,S,S)	(Lauri) Lasee Associates & Peeling 5-5-5	T Spindle	91
403	(16)	870610	BURRY BOD 18 (D,S,S)	(Mrs H. Haygarth) Haygarth & Co 1-1-1	C. Owen O'Neil	97
404	(11)	113560	EL YUSAF 5 (F,S,S)	(Old School House Peeling Ltd) C Allen 7-9-1	T Laves	95
405		514203	MO EXTRAS 12 (F,S,S)	(K Haggard) G L Moore 5-5-5	S Whitehouse	95
406	(12)	323035	ALZAHAN 24 (2,F,S,S)	(Sheikh Azam Al-Zahedi) J Ahmed 4-9-10	W Carson	95
407	11	026900	GREEN PERFUME 44 (F,S,S)	(Lloyd Sordel) P Cole 3-3-5	T Damm	95
		00-0111	SPANAROS CLOSE 25 (D,S,S)	(Jewen Industries Ltd) P Maitin 7-5-7	M Rovers	95
		000213	SVANOS LAD 14 (S)	(M Frutiger) C Payer 6-6-7	C Dwyer	95
		5-51006	ASTRAD 29 (F,S,S)	(C. Thompson) A Alshaker 4-8-7	T Ashley	97
		014008	ORANGE PINE 15 (D,S,S)	(J. Albrecht) T Haggard 4-6-7	J. Smith	95
		000000	WOLF 325 (F,S,S)	(G. Williams) J. Haggard 4-6-7	G. Williams	97

5.10 ROUND OAK HANDICAP
(26,950; 1 m 21/60) (22 runners)

1 (13) 56/50D RAMBO'S HALL 19 (J.F.S.S) (3 Down) J Glover 10-4-11..... D McKeown 32

[illegible]

FORM FORCE

5	400100	DANIELS 25 (D.F.R.S.) (The Dream Team) Henson 3-9-92	3	P. Hughes	
8	143330	MARV CHANCE 20 (J) (Big C Power) H. Hanson 3-9-92	2	O. Hestli	
7	1714	353330	SHALLONS REALITY 15 (D.F.S.) (Realities/Hollows) J. Henkel 4-3-92	W. Carson	
4	1714	353330	SHALLONS REALITY 15 (D.F.S.) (Realities/Hollows) J. Henkel 4-3-92	W. Carson	
9	253330	WINDS OF REALITY 15 (D.F.S.) (The Windy) H. Hols 4-9-92	1	M. Tabbot	
10	103330	SILVER GROUND 16 (D.F.S.) (Silver Ground) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	M. Henry	
11	(121)	353330	SUNSHINE SPECIAL 18 (D.F.S.) (The Sunshine) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson
12	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
13	(121)	353330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson
14	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
15	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
16	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
17	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
18	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
19	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
20	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
21	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
22	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
23	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
24	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
25	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
26	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
27	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
28	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
29	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
30	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
31	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
32	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
33	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
34	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
35	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
36	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
37	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
38	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
39	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
40	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
41	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
42	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
43	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
44	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
45	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
46	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
47	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
48	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
49	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	
50	433330	THE REALITY SHOW 15 (D.F.S.) (The Reality Show) P. Hoshel 4-9-92	1	W. Carson	

3.19		VORFONE HORSES RILL STAKES		BBC	
(Brough 12.24-Y Crows and geldings: £21,840; 77.64yd md) (9 runners)					
301	(8)	22111	BRANDON MASC 72 (DLS)	R Midmeadow 1 Belling 8-9	K Dingley 04
302	(8)	02	BUSY FLIGHT 34 (S Winghamd Oaks) 1 1816 8-9		M Hills 05
303	(7)	1	CENTRE STALLS 22 (DLS)	A Pys-Jones 3 Johnson Houghton 8-9	J Field 02
304	(3)	214011	ICE OF PERIL 19 (DLS)	A Ford 4 Armit 8-9	J Tate 05
305	(4)	021	LOMBERTO 20 (DLS)	A Houghton 1 Hanson 8-8	R Hannon 04

(2nd) 500 to 1000 lbs on 1000 lbs of feed (3rd) 300 to 500 lbs on 1000 lbs of feed		(2nd) 1000 to 1500 lbs on 1000 lbs of feed (3rd) 500 to 1000 lbs on 1000 lbs of feed		
4.10 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND THEALE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: \$4,800: 5f Byd) (20 runners)				
501	(2)	0	CANDOR RIDGE 21 (M Michel) 5 Maiden 9-0	B Dayle
502	(4)	22	GRACEY CHEF 22 (B) (D Simpson) 5 Pale 9-0	T Dabene
503	(16)		FLYING HAROLD (M Allen) 4 Maiden 9-0	R Hughes
504	(7)		HERODIAN (Hessman) 3f 3 Maiden 9-0	W R Swabner

FORM FOCUS

SHEER DANCING beat Seelie's Walk-A in 13-run handicap at York (Jan 28 Bystn, good), COUNTRY

start. JAGGELLON beat Granby 9-0 ½ in 16-run handicap at Chesham (Jan 4 Bystn, good to soft)

[illegible]

508	117	MAILED EMERSON (Mabel Wellesley) Pinsky M February-October 9-0	Date Given	
509	118	OLD MAT 13 (Mimi Price) Fiske Salomon R Human 9-0	M	M Roberts
510	119	PIVOTAL (Chester Park) Sand M Prescott 9-0		C Matter
511	118	P LEADING 33 (S Broker) H Candy 9-0		W Newcas
512	117	PUNCH 22 (The Queen) Lord Huntington 9-0		D Hartford
513	118	REBEL'S LEGACY (H Hagedorn) R Hodges 9-0		T Sprink
514	112	CATCH THE LIGHTS (T Johnson) R Human 9-0		J Field
515	11	RONIA SHAIN 10 (Carol M. Ogle) E Wright J Dineen 9-0		W Carson
516	114	FLY TIP (D McDowell) B Hills 8-0		M Hills
517	0	LAST BUT NOT LEAST (R White) R Johnson Wright 8-0		R Perham

5.40 ROSALE MONBOUT BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div 1: 3-Yr; \$3,815: 1m 21 furlongs (13 runners))

COURSE SPECIALISTS							
TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Wins	Runs	%
P. Canfield	3	12	25.0	W. Dason	40	243	16.5
J. Graham	3	14	21.4	P. Rios	39	248	15.9
H. Smith	37	89	41.8	W.R. Scales	23	134	13.0

BETTING: 5-4 Crazy Chief, 5-1 Meowdian, 8-1 Pinkish, 8-1 Fanci Shams, 10-1 Pleading, 12-1 others.
 1984: UDWINA 8-9 Pin Egoist (13-8 lbs) R Charlton 21 min

4.40 ROSALIE MONBIOT BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES
 (Div 1: 3-Y-D: £3,841: 1m 2f 6yd) (13 runners)

502	4-323	MAAN OFFENDER 143 (89) G (M. Macgregor) H Cecil 9-0	S D Williams	58
502	(7)	3424 M PALACE LAD 18 (Barouche Stud Ltd) H Harmon 9-0	M Tebbutt	58
502	(12)	MAID GUARDIAN (C. Webb) G Bright 9-0	A Adams	

3	(1)	-	NO	HYPERTENSION 34 (Theobalds St) H Hampton 9-0	M Tebbitts
4	(5)	3	PRINTER'S DUNL 24 (Mrs B Woodroff) D Chappell 9-0	M Perrell	
5	(12)	04-00-00	SLEEV SLEEPY 385 (Randolph Therochs) J Toller 9-0	M Carlele	
6	(1)	244-05	SNAG 10 24 (Anti Peripherals) R McCormack 9-0	F Portman	
7	(5)	0-2-62	VENGE BRACE 75 (R Adams) H Pitts 9-0	R Stent	
8	(10)	0	VENGE BRACE 34 (P Wingard) H Candy 9-0	N Adams	
9	(11)	2-0-00	BAGGETT 22 (Mrs J Moffatt) K Ivory 9-0	M Bailey	
10	(1)	0-2-62	VENGE BRACE 38 (Mrs R Stevens) R 9-0	N Roberts	
11	(2)	60-02	DEVON PEASANT 20 (Mrs B Sumner) L Cuthbert 9-0	S Raymond	
12	(4)	6	LA ALLA WA ASA 17 (Sheath Avenue) Al Malsoum J Gauden 9-0	Dawn Gibson	
13	(7)	4-5	SNAIL QUEEN 114 (N Palomah) H Frost 9-0	D J Williams	

J. Thompson Jones	3	28	11.5	M. Roberts	39	297	11.3
-------------------	---	----	------	------------	----	-----	------

Blinkered first time

HEREFORD: 3.20 Jon's Choice. **NEWBURY:** 2.05 Chocolate Charlie, Blushing Grenadier, Lynton Lad. **NOTTINGHAM:** 2.00 Silk Cottage, Tael Of Silver. 2.30 Matismorcs. 3.30 Mamnoon. 4.00 Bluebeard. 5.00 Fairy Knight. 5.30 Reel Raider.

607	141	ES0403	BRIGHT JANUARY 14 (for John Porter) 8 Hills 3-9	R Pichon	
608	138	00	BRICK COURTLY 14 (for Jackson Houghton) R Jackson Houghton 8-9	R Pichon	
609	136	00	JUST FORTHRECHTER 8 (for J. J. Jones) 8-9	C Hunter	
610	130	00	6 PASTOR FLOWER 70 (Eaton Luff) G Bransy 8-9	R Carter	71
611	121	4	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
612	115	ES0-034	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
613	107	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
614	100	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
615	93	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
616	86	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
617	79	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
618	72	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
619	65	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
620	58	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
621	51	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
622	44	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
623	37	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
624	30	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
625	23	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
626	16	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
627	9	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
628	2	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
629	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
630	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
631	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
632	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
633	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
634	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
635	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
636	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
637	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
638	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
639	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
640	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
641	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
642	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
643	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
644	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
645	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
646	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
647	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
648	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
649	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
650	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
651	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
652	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
653	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
654	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
655	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
656	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
657	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
658	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
659	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
660	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
661	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
662	0	00	QUESTER 377 (R. Anderson) J Gossin 8-9	Dale Gibson	80
663	0				

FORM FOCUS

<p>ALUMINUM 141H 5th of 7 to Jurnehuth Saw in machine at Yarmouth (11m, 2nd to firm) FASH 741 5th of 8 to P. Gould in machine at Portneuf (1m, good to firm) on pneumatic cast. PRINTERS DURL 941 3rd of 10 to P. Chomel in machine at Bath (1m, 2nd, good to firm). VEACH BEACH 11m 2nd of 3 to Never Explains in machine at Ave (1m, 2nd</p>	<p>good to firm). DEVON PEASANT short-head 2nd of 15 to Royce Hue in machine at Gaspereau (1m, 2nd, good). LA ALIA WA ASA 541 6th of 18 to Lancashire in machine at Portneuf (1m, good to firm). RIVAL QUEEN 1341 5th of 10 to Bonnet Flore in machine at Yarmouth (1m, firm). Saskatoon VEACH BEACH</p>
--	--

HEREFOR



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.40: Seasonal Splendour relished the test of stamina when tried over two miles at Goodwood last month, winning in good style only to be disqualified, having barged her way out of a pocket two furlongs from home. She will take all the beating in her bid to gain compensation; Istabraq, who ran unaccountably badly when favourite for a more competitive race at As-

Nap: ISTABRAQ
(2:40 Newbury)
Next best: Nador
(3:10 Newbury)

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

**2.20 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND
HANDICAPED MAIDLE**
(Qualifying: 22-27 lbs; 2m (6 runners))

1- 3-19 **MISS BETTER** 22 (8) & Missy 5-12-0
2- **21-11 MONSIEUR JUMPER** 14 (4) & T. Foster
3- **0-0 KING FOWLER** 12 & Williams 5-11-0
4- **0-00 FAVORITE MUSIC** 81 & Hutchins 5-11-0
5- **0-00 KELLY'S FIDDLE** 204 and 10 Pound
6- **0-00 GUSSE CARRIAGE** 19 & Nelson 5-9-0

*20-19 Jumper, 3-1 Santa Seta, 8-1 Sapporo
28-1 King Towner, 25-1 Maddy's Fiddle.*

2.50 PONTLAS NOVICES HAW
(22-81; 2m 3f) (6)

1- 21-11 **POUNCE** 14 (5) & P. Foster 5-12-0
2- **40-11 FLORENCE PRICE** 21 (4) & Blanding 7-1-0
3- **0-00 DAMEA FRET** 12 & Blandier 5-10-0
4- **1-10 FIFTEEN COUNCIL** 10 & Graham 5-10-0
5- **21-00** **WILLIAM** 14 (5) & P. Foster 5-10-0
6- **P-0** **ON THE TEAR** 12 & Cogan 5-10-0

*5-1 Padden Phipp, 7-4 Zulu, 5-1 Dama Fret, 16-1
Catharine Price, 16-1 William.*


3.20 FOWNHOP SELLING HAW
(22-094; 2m 10f) (17)

4.20 ALLEN
(\$2,840; 2m) (4)
1 - **GOIN** Cuyler
2 - **SAUP** Galsitz
3 - **OSZAK** Hanna
4 - **251** - Newnan
1-5 Captain Knappe, 9-3

4.50 LALIB
(\$2,845; 2m 31)
1 - **10-0** EXCURSE
2 - **53-0** ACHER
3 - **26-0** COPY
4 - **26-0** FALLEN
5 - **9-0** RABBIT
7-4 Captain Knappe, 9-3
1-41 Captain Knappe, 9-3

CR

TRAMERS: 8 Run
1 - **10-0** Newnan
2 - **27-0** 19-5
3 - **27-0** 19-5
4 - **27-0** 19-5
5 - **14-0** 54-5
6 - **14-0** 54-5
7 - **14-0** 54-5
8 - **14-0** 54-5

[illegible]

**GARDNER
RATED**

6 furlongs handicap, New

5/1 No Extras
7/1 Montendre
7/1 Spaniard's Close
15/2 Bold Effort
8/1 Alzianah
10/1 Bunty Boo

WINNING TODAY... BET TODAY
£8000 44 40 40
 Free Timeform Booklet will be sent within 7 to 10 days of your first bet being placed.

OVERSEAS MERCHANDISE STAKES
 Tuesday 3.40pm, Live on BBC TV.

12/1	Lennox Lewis
14/1	Groen Perfume
16/1	Carranita
20/1	Domulla
20/1	Tabook
25/1	Bowden Rose

still rates the main danger.

3.10: Tumbleweed. Ridge boasts the best form, having been beaten a head by Royal Applause in the Gimcrack at York, but his stamina looked suspect over seven furlongs at Newmarket last month. Brandon Magic was uninspired by the slow early pace when scrambling home at Ascot

quick succession when disappointing at Hamilton last time and the run is best ignored. She encounters her favoured cut in the ground for the first time this season, and will be hard to beat if recapturing the form of her neck second to Astrac in the Wokingham at Royal Ascot.

ROBERT WRIGHT

[illegible]

More

THE British
release seven
aquamarine,
silver and ten
as plain silks.
tions of two
shade with or
be secured or
will carry a n

colours released

Each way One Quarter the odds a place
Available up to 3.25pts Tattersalls Ltd

LATEST ODDS ON
- Teletext on C

Wallis

TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPICK
PICKS SUBSIDY

1, 2, 3, 4. Prices subject to fluctuation.
 40c may apply. Non runner - no bet.

WILLIAM HILL TV TEXT
 14 P601/602/603

WILL HILL

0800 789 852 WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY
 TO FLUCTUATION

[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to low contrast and blurring. It appears to be a continuation of a document or report.]

One last, defiant gesture and they were gone

In certain circles it has become fashionable to engage in vigorous debate on the subject of which is funnier, *Smith and Jones* or *Hale and Pace*. No, it is a world where the prospect of *Barrow* and *Holmes* broadcasting simultaneously on all four channels looms ever nearer (last night he managed BBC1 and ITV), we must all be cheering up, we can get it.

I am, therefore, profoundly grateful to both partnerships for highlighting the gloom in their own different ways. The difference between *Smith and Jones* and *Hale and Pace* is not that *Smith and Jones* is not really very much a case of *pas devant la grand-mère*, *Smith and Jones* have gradually been moving towards the safer middle ground formerly occupied by the *Two Ronnies* and *Morecambe and Wise*. Until, that is, last night, the last in the current series of *Smith and Jones* (BBC1).

Whether it was the fact that it was the final show or whether it was because BBC2 next week starts to show repeats of their ground-breaking youth in *Not The Nine O'Clock News* I do not know, but suddenly *Smith and Jones* were not about to go gently into that good night. They were going to end with a bang.

Can you imagine, last night, the sequence which it wasn't prompted by a number of early retirements from the presentation departments of BBC1, Channel 4 and Carlton — well, it should have.

No, I don't know what's funny about *Smith and Jones* but, I said as I watched, *Smith and Jones* were not about to go gently into that good night. They were going to end with a bang.

A fortnight or so ago, the pair had a running gag with the

punchline "No, I really can't be bothered" which at the time seemed just a little bit too close to the truth to be funny. But last night they clearly had been bothered. The orchestra musicians who couldn't play their violins but were willing to learn owned a big debt to *Morecambe and Wise* (and *André Previn*, come to that) but the idea was brilliantly executed. "It takes 15 years to become a concert violinist," raged the conductor. "What time's the concert, then?"

But my favourite moments were two sketches of inspired silliness. In the first, Lord Lucan was alive, well and living happily as Desmond Lynam (well, do you remember seeing Des before 1979?), and in the second came the suggestion that, following in the traditions of the departing bride, the chief mourner at a funeral should toss a wreath in the direction of the congregation.

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Mind you, I'm quite glad granny missed that one, too.

There were more generational problems with *Peep! Peep! (TV)*, a sort of how-it-was-done curtain raiser to a new animated version of Kenneth Grahame's classic that will grace our screens at Christmas. Grahame, we were told, wrote "for those who keep the spirit of youth alive in them". This interesting but earnest documenta-

ry was presumably aimed at a similar audience. So why did it go out at what used to be called Children's Hour?

Suspension of disbelief counted for nothing. A whole generation will now grow up believing that the most important thing about Toad is that he loved fast motor cars, but that it took 30 times of paint to keep his face the right shade of green.

Serious men with serious beards (facial hair seems compulsory in the world of animation) discussed serious subjects such as characterisation, visualisation and dope sheets. "Dope — that's American for 'information'," mumbled another bearded, hurriedly, presumably in case any passing seven-year-old should overhear.

Rik Mayall essayed a burst of the voice he uses for Toad, a cross, he said, between the characters he played in those two other children's classics, *Bottom* and *The*

Young Ones. "No sorry, that's a bit too..." Camp was the word he was searching for, but thankfully he didn't find it. Still, the experts suggested that 400 artists and 500 gallons of paint have rarely been brought together to better effect.

The problem for *Earth 2* (Sky One) is the opposite — I mean in terms of generations, not paint. Three episodes into its run, it is now evident that this is either a children's programme scheduled at the wrong time or an adult programme rendered unwatchable by its over-dependence on obnoxious eight-year-olds.

My only excuse for watching again was to see if Commander O'Neil was going to make it three episodes in a row — dying that. Given the long runs that American dramas tend to come in, dying in episode one is normally considered a raw deal. Dying in episodes one

and two (you mean, gasp, we buried the commander alive?) might be considered doubly unfortunate. In *Earth 2*, however, it actually shows a stately determination on the part of the actor to get out while he can. He did not rise again.

The expensive special effects of episode one are now a distant memory and the most exciting moment of what is fast turning into *Little House on the Prairie* was the *Grav-Bag* horse. Water and sand well back. Next week, boil-in-the-bag eight-year-olds, please?

Finally, I turned to *Pirates* (BBC1), a children's drama series which featured a man permanently tied up in a sack, a drag queen (Lily Savage), the repeated use of handbags and heavy frying pans and a very good joke about a poet called Eponymous Biro. "What sort of name's that?" "A pen name." At last — one for granny.

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (22105)
- 6.00am BBC Breakfast News (0450819)
- 9.10am Killy (0458257)
- 10.30am News (0458257)
- 10.30am Good Morning with Anne and Nick (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm Regional News and weather (0458257)
- 1.00pm One O'Clock News (0458257)
- 1.30pm Neighbours (0458257)
- 1.50pm Neighbours (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.10pm Byker Grove (0458257)
- 5.30pm Neighbours (0458257)
- 6.00pm Six O'Clock News (0458257)
- 6.30pm Regional News and weather (0458257)
- 7.00pm Top of the Pops (0458257)
- 7.30pm Eastenders (0458257)
- 8.00pm Animal Hospital (0458257)
- 8.30pm Big Break Tricky Special (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm Backstage Clubbing (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.30am News (0458257)

BBC2

- 6.00am The Learning Zone (0458257)
- 6.30am Computing for the Less Talented (0458257)
- 7.00am Breakfast News (0458257)
- 7.15am News (0458257)
- 7.30am News (0458257)
- 8.00am Secret Service (0458257)
- 8.30am News (0458257)
- 9.00am News (0458257)
- 9.30am News (0458257)
- 10.00am News (0458257)
- 10.30am News (0458257)
- 11.00am News (0458257)
- 11.30am News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (0458257)
- 8.30pm News (0458257)
- 9.00pm News (0458257)
- 9.30pm News (0458257)
- 10.00pm News (0458257)
- 10.30pm News (0458257)
- 11.00pm News (0458257)
- 11.30pm News (0458257)
- 12.00pm News (0458257)
- 12.30pm News (0458257)
- 1.00pm News (0458257)
- 1.30pm News (0458257)
- 2.00pm News (0458257)
- 2.30pm News (0458257)
- 3.00pm News (0458257)
- 3.30pm News (0458257)
- 4.00pm News (0458257)
- 4.30pm News (0458257)
- 5.00pm News (0458257)
- 5.30pm News (0458257)
- 6.00pm News (0458257)
- 6.30pm News (0458257)
- 7.00pm News (0458257)
- 7.30pm News (0458257)
- 8.00pm News (04582

Outside pressures take heavy toll as German slumps to unexpected defeat

Graf succumbs to greatest humiliation

By Stuart Jones, Tennis Correspondent

STEFFI GRAF came to Brighton, a quiet backwater of a women's tournament, to escape from a relentless hounding from the German media. She described the visit to the south coast as "a little holiday". It ended yesterday with the biggest humiliation of her career.

Unrecognisable from the woman who had collected the championships at the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open, where she last played six weeks ago, she was knocked out by an undistinguished, though talented, qualifier. The ignominy was inflicted by Mariana de Swardt, a burly and bespectacled 24-year-old from South Africa.

Not since she was beaten in the same indoor arena by Jo Durie a decade ago has Graf yielded to an opponent ranked outside the world's top 50. She was then aged 16, two years away from claiming her first grand slam tournament and three years before she became officially rated as the best player in the world.

Graf had since suffered a mere 16 losses and a curiously symmetrical ring surrounds the two imposed this year. The other, at the Canadian Open in Toronto, was also at the hands of a South African, Amanda Coetzer, and also in the second round after Graf had received a bye.

This time, indisputably, there were cruelly extenuating circumstances. For the last

two months, Graf has become increasingly embroiled in the case concerning the alleged tax evasion of her father, who is being held in a remand prison in Germany and whom she has been allowed to see only once.

Either directly or indirectly, she has been mentioned virtually daily on the front pages of German newspapers. Their representatives pursued her to Brighton, which she had imagined might be a safe, albeit temporary, haven during a period she confessed has been the unappetising of her life.

She did not hide behind excuses, even though she played as poorly as anyone could remember. Instead, she paid a dignified and startlingly generous tribute to de Swardt as she faced a phalanx of interrogators, gathered in unprecedented numbers for the press conference.

Lights, cameras, reaction. "For a set and a half, that was the best any woman has ever played against me," she declared. Better, that is, than Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, Tracy Austin, Monica Seles, Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario or Conchita Martinez. "I couldn't do any more than I did. I didn't think that I was going to lose, but I knew that it might happen. There is nothing that I can blame it on. I practised more than enough and I didn't feel nervous on court." In that case, appearances were deceptive.

She averaged more than a double fault throughout the first set, conceded seven successive games and was heading towards a calamitous defeat in straight sets within an hour. She was full of the hesitation, doubt and diffidence that she habitually instils in her opponents.

On the point of falling 0-4 down in the second set, she rallied to take six successive games, but yielded six of the next seven to go out 6-2, 4-6, 6-1 in an hour and a half. Her run of 30 successive wins at Brighton, including six titles, was brought to a swift conclusion.

She was asked what she might do now to relax. "Relax? I don't know about that," she replied. She intends to compete in Philadelphia and New York, dismissing the possibility of playing in Oakland as well. She disclosed that she is physically incapable of taking part in three consecutive events. Her future, already in doubt because of a persistent and chronic back complaint, will continue to be the subject of speculation for as long as her father faces the threat of long-term incarceration.

De Swardt packs a heavy punch, once hitting an ace on a second serve with the use of the shoulder that required surgery last year. Her fifth win of the week, which will appreciably improve her present ranking of No 54, took her into the last eight.

As the top half of the draw lost the top seed, so the bottom half lost the No 2 seed. Jana Novotna, complaining of influenza, conceded the last ten games to go out to Miriam Oremans, 6-4, 6-0. The curtain seems to have fallen prematurely on the last tournament at Brighton, which closes on Sunday.

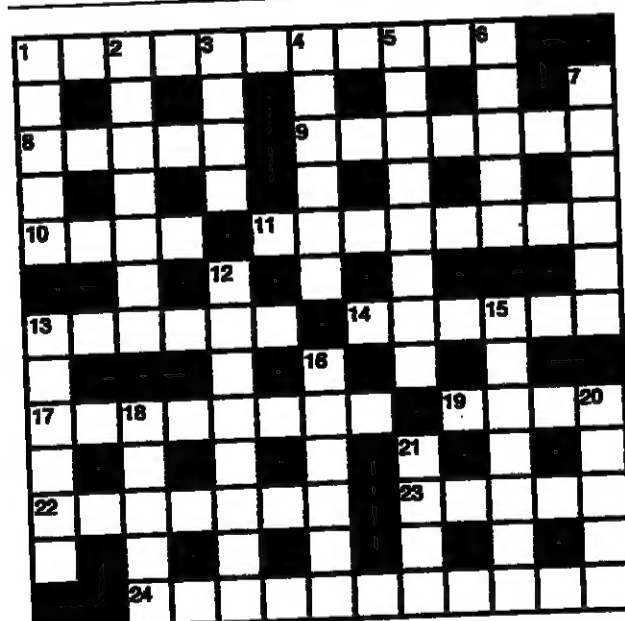
RESULTS

First round: M Oremans (Hol) vs K Melnikova (Bel) 7-5, 6-1; K Novotna (Pol) vs J Kanderer (Ger) 6-2, 6-4; B Pauss (Aust) vs J Krieger (SA) 6-0, 7-6; S Pinner (Ger) vs N Dancu (Rom) 6-3, 7-6.

Second round: M de Swardt (SA) vs S Graf (Ger) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; M Oremans (Hol) vs J Novotna (Pol) 6-4, 6-0; P Bogert (Hol) vs S Appelmans (Bel) 6-3, 6-4; A Coetzer (SA) vs A Carlson (Swe) 6-2, 6-3.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 604 in association with
BRITISH MIDLAND



- ACROSS
- 1 Idle slob (5,6)
 - 8 Chief Ring god (Wagner) (5)
 - 9 Educational institution (7)
 - 10 Called: ladder step (4)
 - 11 Extinct reptile, some huge (8)
 - 13 Trunk (6)
 - 14 Give power to; push forward (6)
 - 17 Assumed but unspoken (8)
 - 19 Brewers' mix: pulverise (eg potatoes) (4)
 - 22 Take advantage of; daring feat (7)
 - 23 (Spoken) out (5)
 - 24 Coins, not notes (5,6)

- DOWN
- 1 Cringe in fear (5)
 - 2 Until this moment (2,2,3)
 - 3 (Picture) put up: (jury) split (4)
 - 4 Flower: bee, fly, monkey versions (6)
 - 5 On which quadruped goes (3,5)
 - 6 Last Greek letter (5)
 - 7 Car fuel (6)
 - 12 Province, Winnipeg its capital (8)
 - 13 Peter -, Britain's fisherman (6)
 - 15 Mil. unit under lieutenant (7)
 - 16 Firearm: crony of Falstaff (6)
 - 18 Samuel -, diarist (5)
 - 20 Row of boundary shrubs (5)
 - 21 Reheated dish: a mess (4)

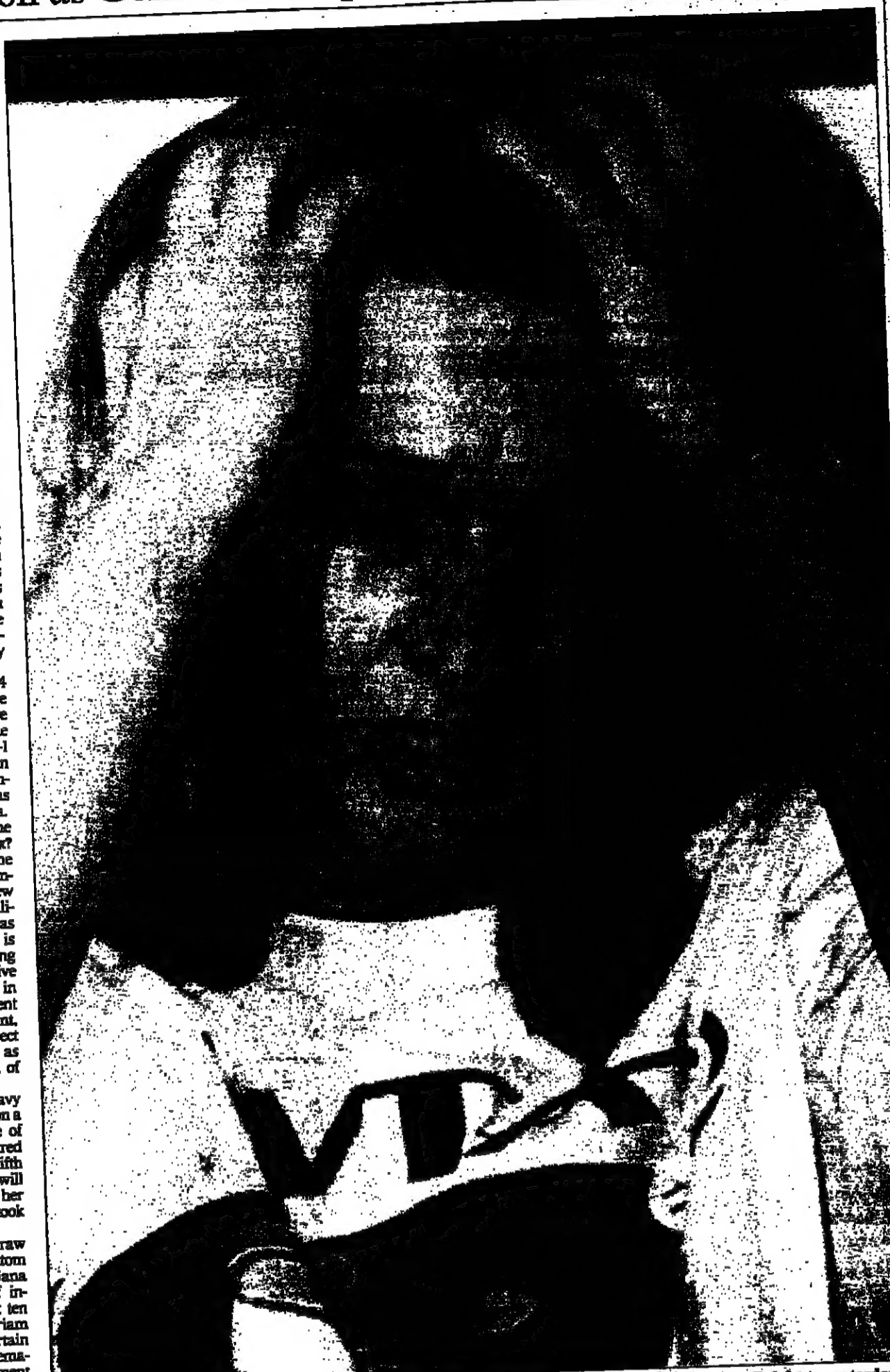
PRIZES:
THE WINNER will receive a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on British Midland's domestic or international network.

THE RUNNER-UP will receive a return ticket to anywhere on British Midland's domestic network. British Midland offers an extensive range of departure and destination points throughout the UK as well as Europe. As the UK's second largest scheduled service airline and Heathrow's second biggest user, it operates a fleet of 35 aircraft on over 1200 flights per week throughout the UK and Europe. All flights are subject to availability.

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address

SOLUTION TO No. 603
ACROSS: 1 Bucle 5 Depot 8 Salem 9 Outcome 10 Uncle Tom 11 Fold 13 Tongue-in-cheek 16 Diet 17 Festival 20 Cahall 21 Title 22 Layer 23 Peccant
DOWN: 1 Biscuit 2 Colic 3 Limber up 4 Crocodile clip 5 Date 6 Propose 7 Tread 12 Ecstasy 14 No entry 15 Kilvert 16 Dual 18 Villa 19 Pair



Graf struggles to find answers after her extraordinary defeat by the unseeded de Swardt at Brighton yesterday

How Red Rum bulldozed his way into National history

The wind blew all Friday night and on Saturday morning the blustery sky was clear. In Birkdale Road, Southport, Red Rum flexed his muscles as he was led from his box and, like any athlete tuned to his peak, was invigorated by the keen air and warmed by the rays of the sun.

The old turf at Aintree is extraordinary. As it poured with rain on Thursday, the hopes of Red Rum's supporters had sunk to their lowest ebb. At the start of Friday's racing, things had started to improve as John Burke, the rider of the first winner, Samuel Pepps, reported that the going was good. But soon afterwards, the heavens opened and everything again seemed lost.

But as I walked the course before the first race on Saturday, the quick draining properties of the Aintree ground and the drying conditions had done their work. In the Sun Ratings Steeplechase, Skymas, twice the two-mile champion steeplechaser and given a superb ride by Mouse Morris, shattered the track record when finishing like a tiger to catch Santon Brig close to home.

In the Templegate Hurdle, the champion, Night Nurse, after surviving a bad blunder at the third-last, gave the 51,000 crowd the thrill of a lifetime when forcing a dead heat with Monksfield in another last time. And so the scene was set and, for the first time this week, the incredible success for Red Rum seemed on the cards.

Just under an hour later, it was all over. Among scenes of unparalleled enthusiasm,

On April 2, 1977 Red Rum won his third and last Grand National. The Times carried this report by Michael Seely.

Red Rum had won his third Grand National. Hard-headed racing regulars were streaming from the stands, elated to a pitch of unbelievable enthusiasm. The large bowler-hatted figure of Lord Grimthorpe, with tears streaming down his cheeks, was hugging an equally emotional Mrs. Stack.

Even Tommy Stack himself, as cool as a cat as ever left Co. Kilkenny, was furiously dabbing his eyes as he rode in triumph back to the unsad-

dling enclosure. Ron Pollard, a director of Ladbrokes, added a further bizarre touch to the scene by bursting into the press room, his eyes wild with excitement, shouting: "We've lost a quarter of a million and I simply don't care."

The feelings evoked by Red Rum are a sense of nationwide identification with this remarkable survivor of 10 seasons of arduous campaigning. Red Rum is unique. Horses that are rid-

den into the ground as two-year-olds do not come back to win three Grand Nationals as well as being placed second in two other runs.

This was the recurrent theme of Stack's narrative after the race. Paul Cook, Geoff Lewis and Lester Pigott are but three of the jockeys who subjected Red Rum to hard races on the flat. "I'm as guilty as anyone," Stack said with an air of wistfulness in his voice. "Many's the time in the past that I've slogged him unmercifully around Catterick."

Red Rum's tough life has served only as the perfect preparation for turning him into an Aintree specialist. It is his sense of self-preservation, allied to an unusual intelligence as much as his courage, that has made Red Rum a canny, watchful horse who swerves and sidesteps, taking enormous fences in his stride.

"He sees them as a challenge," Stack said. "We weren't going too well as we set out into the country the last time round. But the moment we reached the next fence, Red Rum had forgotten about his galloping and was concentrating only in avoiding trouble and getting over the jumps."

Jeff King, on What A Buck, confirmed it. "At one time, a loose horse ran straight down the fence in front of them. There was no way that they could have survived, but they did." And so, like a wary, inexorable tank, Red Rum bulldozed his way into history.



Tommy Stack and Red Rum, the heroes of Aintree on April 2, 1977. Photograph: Stewart Fraser

Simon Barnes, page 1
National hero, page 45

England trail in cricket's mind-game stakes

By Simon Wilde

SOUTH Africa and England will break new ground this winter not only by contesting the first Test series between the countries since 1965, but also in the extent to which the cricket will be fought on the battlefields of mind and body.

At Heathrow yesterday, as the England party assembled for the evening flight to Johannesburg, it was hard to distinguish, blattered players from blattered managers, assistant managers, physiotherapists, doctors and specialist coaches. Only when they were shepherded together for photographs was it possible to ascertain that there were 16 of the former and six of the latter.

Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, has assembled an even more sophisticated backroom staff that includes a psychologist, biochemist and dietician, not to mention a battalion of jelly babies for nutritional support. There was a time when players turned up and played. Not any more.

Woolmer was complimentary yesterday about the team that Michael Atherton, the England captain, brings, calling it "settled and resurgent". It is South Africa, though, who enter the Test series with the advantage. They have won their past five Tests and have in Woolmer perhaps the most innovative coach in the world.

"He has revolutionised top-level cricket here," Hansie Cronje, the national captain, said. "We think talk and play the game differently now."

Woolmer himself vows the changes will continue and is not only preparing for the England tour, but also the World Cup early next year and South Africa's first Test series with West Indies in three years' time. "No coach, captain or player can say they have achieved everything until they have beaten the Windies. They come to South Africa in 1998-99 and I hope I'm still around for the challenge."

Woolmer has a better chance than Raymond Illingworth, his England counterpart, of being around then. Illingworth's contract is up for renewal next spring and even he, a reluctant tourist, does not know what will happen after that.

Photograph, page 24
Warn welcome, page 46
Medical advice, page 46

Open...

Your mainframe has gone to meet its maker. Now you have open systems, client-server architecture, distributed processing - call it what you like.

It works. And better still, costs less. But now there are 300 budding IT Directors on the network doing their own thing, wreaking havoc.

...View

Hewlett-Packard's OpenView is a suite of tools that work as your eyes and ears on the network. OpenView can also distribute software, reduce system bottlenecks and fix faults. What's more, it looks after multiple platforms including UNIX systems and personal computer networks.

View OpenView at a MorseData Technology Briefing. And prevent your "Open" dream becoming your worst nightmare.



MorseData

Profile West, 950 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex. 0181-232-8000.

MORSE

HEWLETT-PACKARD
George Bunker